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POLICE PROBE CLAIM MAORI GROUP TRAINS SECRET ARMY

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by Max Jessop]

[Text]

FEDERAL and Queensland police are investigating a claim that a secret army is being trained by a Maori activist in north Queensland forests to send in troops to block the Brisbane Commonwealth Games this year.

The Queensland Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, will seek reports this week from the police on the claim.

A policeman in north Queensland has told his superiors he has evidence of a Maori activist recruiting "militant blacks and criminals" and training them at a camp near Cairns to use weapons.

The area has previously been a suspected training ground for Croatian nationalists.

The Maori activist is said to be a self-styled "colonel", and police say he is widely known to them for his indiscriminate use of firearms.

The policeman, who refuses to be identified, said: "He is setting out deliberately to turn the Games into a bloodbath."

"We have been informed that among his recruits are

black malcontents and drug addicts.

"He is said to carry a rifle, and dress in army-style camouflage jungle green combat fatigues.

"He tells his supporters to 'kill the police', and his favorite catch-cry is 'down with the pigs'."

"We have evidence there is deep trouble over the Games, right on our doorstep.

"But so far we have not been able to gather sufficient evidence to flush out this man and his supporters, although we are certain who he is.

"The jungles of north Queensland are large and dense, and it is a major operation."

Last week the Queensland Minister for Welfare Services, Mr White, on a visit to New Zealand, said he was appalled at the level of Maori support for military action to stop the Games.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen said yesterday he was calling for a report from police over the latest developments, and the matter is certain to be discussed by his Cabinet tomorrow.

CSO: 4220/6008

DISSENTERS GROWING STRONGER

London ARABIA in English Mar 82 p 35

[Text]  There are signs of increasing trouble in Indonesian politics. Previously muted dissent about the post-Sukarno New Order is becoming louder, and there has even been direct criticism of President Suharto. The most notable example was the "statement of concern" issued by 50 prominent politicians and former military officers in May 1980. They accused the President of blatantly using the armed forces in a partisan way and of implying that an attack on him is tantamount to an attack on Panca Sila, the basic principles of the republic. An accompanying note from a retired general, Muhammad Jasin, was blunter in making the personal morality of the President a matter for national political debate.

It is against this background that the electoral contests will take place in the spring. Next year Suharto may run for yet another term, after what will be 16 years at the helm. To a significant extent his success depends on the attitude of Indonesia's youth, but that attitude is both variable and often ambivalent.

Perhaps the most important group is that of the younger generation of military officers within the armed forces, the *generasi muda*. The present ideology is the only one they have known and Suharto the only leader they have followed. But he is not the only person of influence in their lives, for retired General A H Nasution is one of the giants of Indonesian military history and a natural hero to them. He is also an articulate critic of the present regime.

Moreover, because of the professionalism of their training, the younger officers may be worried about the level of corruption that has become the norm and, because of their distance from the chaotic days of Sukarno's Guided Democracy, to wonder why a freer

system is still sacrificed to the goal of stability. They may even be influenced by the general reaffirmation of Islamic sentiment throughout the world and begin to question the prudence of the secular way. Indeed, at least one prominent elder statesman believes that some members of this new generation are turning to Islam and becoming secret consumers of dawah publications. There is, however, no reliable evidence to suggest that Islam is a principal motivating factor in this group or to question their fundamental commitment to a multi-religious state.

There is a discernible rise of Islamic zeal among Muslim youth outside of the military. Throughout the country there is a marked increase in dawah work and student interest. The Salaman Mosque Group, for example, is a particularly lively organisation of students at the Bandung Institute of Technology who are involved, among other things, in the translating, publishing and disseminating of books on Islam. There is also increased enrolment in both *pesantrens*, the traditional religious schools, and IAINs, the state-run institutes of higher Islamic learning.

Opinions vary as to the constitutional importance to be given to Islam. There are some, generally influenced by Masjumi-type figures (though not exclusively so), who are contemptuous of the present system and argue for its replacement with an Islamic state. In effect, they want to rewrite history, this time winning the battle of the 1945 Charter and making Indonesia officially Islamic. There are others, however, who are intent on remaining "statistical Muslims" and thus are happy with the status quo. This is so either out of the conviction that an emphasis on Islam will upset the country's delicate ethnic balance or simply out of confessional or political apathy.

A third group is perhaps the largest. Its members are anxious to make Indonesian

society more Islamic but loath to create a new constitutional order. They are basically accommodationists, having been tutored all their lives in the *Panca Sila* and so accepting that Indonesia, despite its overwhelming majority of Muslims (on paper, at least), would degenerate into the politics of tyranny or tear itself apart if the government became "theocratic." It is one of the ironies of categorisation that the Nahdatul Ulema (NU), purportedly "traditionalist", has by and large represented this sentiment.

However, even among those who acquiesce in the structure of the state, there are political discontents. They are of two kinds. First, there is the feeling that Indonesian society is suffering from a spiritual malaise which would be remedied by a healthy infusion of Islam. In particular, Islam is seen as an antidote to the corruption that is practised and to the inequities that derive from a basically capitalist road to development. Insofar as the government fails to remedy this kind of problem, it runs the risk of crystallising the discontent into active political opposition. It probably faces the certainty of that happening if it seems to become more anti-Islamic than un-Islamic, as it did with the attempted marriage law reform in 1973-4.

Second, there is concern among the youth, and others, that the level of permissible political participation is far too low. Islamic political "parties" are currently in an unenviable position: having been amalgamated into the government-created Partai Persatuan Pembangunan (PPP), they formally ceased to exist. However, loyalties to them persist, giving rise to governmental efforts to manipulate the balance of power within the PPP. Recently the NU claimed that the approved May electoral list is designed to rob it of its PPP seats in the parliament. If it decides to boycott the election, the political waters would be agitated further; it would reduce the stake in the system of those who helped to create it with their valuable support of the military in 1965.

As in Malaysia, there seems to be little revolutionary fervour among Indonesia's youth. Nevertheless, there is disenchantment, which if combined with criticism from some military quarters, might shake the regime's stability. For a country with so many Muslims, Islam until now has had remarkably little

political significance. But that may be changing, given the weaknesses of Suharto's regime and the strengths of the Islamic networks.

There are not only the *pesantrens* but also the *dawah* organisations which, in linking Islam to social justice, indulge in political expression and perhaps in mobilisation of the young. As the formal institutions seem hardened and remote, the informal, Islamic ones seem more attractive. According to one eminent Indonesian historian, Indonesia's colonial history has an important lesson for the future: the surest way to politicise Islam is to try to depoliticise it.

DEATH SENTENCE FOR MUSLIM DISSIDENT

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 15 Mar 82 pp 1, 3

[Article: "Imran Sentenced to Death"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--Imran bin Muhammad Zein (32 years old), who was accused of carrying on criminally subversive action, on Saturday [13 March] was sentenced to death by the State Court of Central Jakarta.

In reading the verdict the presiding judge stated, among other things, that the accused had often been invited to give sermons and read from the Koran in Cimahi [West Java] and has also given sermons at Istiqomah Mosque in Bandung. The accused had often expressed his views to members of the Agung Mosque Youth Group (HIPMA) in Cimahi and to the Istiqomah Mosque Youth League (IPI) in Bandung, to the effect that he wished to purify the teachings of Islam in accordance with the Koran.

The youth of Cimahi and Bandung showed respect toward the accused because they considered that he was well-educated in religious affairs and he dared to oppose the senior religious scholars [ulama] when he felt they had taken a false step. They also wanted to join in purifying Islamic teachings.

In giving shape to their objectives Imran had said it was necessary to be strong and to use force. To strengthen themselves it was necessary for people holding the same views to unite, and later, on 16 June 1980, at an evening meeting in the home of Haji Adang Suherman in Cimahi a community was formed on the basis of a loyalty oath, which declared the accused to be their leader [imam]. The objective of the community was to apply the law of Allah throughout the world, beginning in Indonesia.

In seeking funds before the community was formed, and specifically in December, 1979, the accused, together with Mahrizal, Pikintoro, and Naziief Thomawie, established the so-called Indonesian Islamic Revolutionary Council [Dewan Revolusi Islam Indonesia].

On 7 December 1979 using a Medan address, the accused wrote a letter to the Iranian leader, Imam Khomeyni. The letter was to be carried personally by Mahrizal, a member of the community. However, the letter, which had an anti-Indonesian government tone, was not considered by the Iranian leader.

The accused was also proved to have been guilty of ordering the assassination of Dr Syamsuddin and the kidnapping of Rusyad Nurdin (a religious scholar of West Java) and Kyai Haji E Z Muttaqin (chairman of the West Java Council of Muslim Scholars).

Beside that the accused was also proved to have ordered members of the community to obtain firearms. As a consequence of this order an attack on the Cicendo police post in Bandung took place on 11 March 1981. In the attack three police officers were killed and one police officer was seriously wounded, while a number of firearms were seized by members of the community. A pistol obtained in the attack was turned over by a member of the attacking group to Imran. The pistol was later turned over by the accused to Mahrizal (a member of the group that hijacked the Garuda DC-9 "Woyla").

The accused was also proved to have taken a pistol belonging to Dr Yacoob. The pistol was later turned over by the accused to Dr Army, who subsequently gave it to Abu Sofyan (a member of the hijack group).

At Karang Tembok, in Surabaya, in March, 1981, the accused urged Mahrizal, Azhar Syafar, Achmad Yani Wahid, H M Yusuf, and Zulfikar to hijack the aircraft, as proposed by Mahrizal. Imran also urged them to make Rp 500,000 available for the hijacking.

The hijack was carried out on 28 March 1981 against the Garuda DC-9 "Woyla" on the flight between Jakarta and Medan when it was above Pekanbaru. The aircraft was finally freed by Indonesian anti-terrorist troops at Don Muang airport in Bangkok. Five of the hijackers, that is, Mahrizal, Zulfikar, Abu Sofyan, Agus Mulyono, and Wendy, as well as Co-pilot Herman and a member of the anti-terrorist commando, A Kirang, were killed.

The actions of the accused were regarded as capable of threatening the continued existence of the Republic of Indonesia, based on the Pancasila and the Constitution of 1945. The actions of the accused caused a loss of lives and a not inconsiderable loss of property. They were also capable of shaking the foundations of national unity and union.

Although the accused stated in court that he had never been convicted before and expressed regret for his actions, when all of the actions of the accused and his group are considered, his actions led to consequences with very broad implications, said the presiding judges.

The judges were of the view that the foregoing considerations could not serve as reasons to lessen the sentence handed down regarding the accused. The court began hearing the case on 30 December 1981, in the course of which 24 witnesses appeared.

5170
CSO: 4213/49

LABOR STRIKES ON WAGE ISSUES

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 5 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Article: "Minister of Manpower and Transmigration: Most Strikes on Wage Issues"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--The minister of manpower and transmigration, Dr Harun Zein, has stated that most of the strikes occurring in various companies concern wage issues.

He made this statement before the All-Indonesian Conference of Governors, Regents and City Mayors in Jakarta on Thursday [4 March]. The minister said that this question needs attention from the government, businessmen, and labor.

He said that during the period 1980/1981 there were 100 strikes involving 8,523 workers in 108 companies. This caused the loss of 328,996 hours of work. In the following year [1981/1982] there has been a tendency for strikes to increase, with 162 strikes occurring so far in 162 companies, involving 56,423 workers and causing the loss of 471,111 hours of work.

The minister said that strikes still occurred because there are companies which do not fully understand the provisions of Law No 12 of 1964, especially those involving the termination of employment. Thus, the unwise attitude displayed by management may provoke feelings of total labor solidarity which can lead to strikes.

He said that with the increasing pace of development, accompanied by the emergence of many kinds of industries in various sectors of the economy, the number of labor disputes has also increased. He said that in principle every businessman should seek to ensure that there are no workers dismissed from their jobs. This is because the workers who are protected by the law referred to above are not only the permanently engaged workers but also daily-paid workers, those paid on a monthly basis, or contract workers in a private company.

Misunderstandings of the law result in the fact that there are still companies which dismiss workers without prior discussions with the workers involved.

He added that dismissals of workers could not always be avoided. However, if they were preceded by discussions, and if the matter were referred to the government in case the discussions fail, through the provincial and central labor disputes machinery, the issue could be resolved properly.

The minister expressed the hope that the provincial authorities concerned would pay more attention to labor questions in the villages, where 80 percent of the Indonesian working force is found. "Our large population should not be regarded as a burden but as beneficial labor capital," he stated.

5170

CSO: 4213/49

VETERANS OF JAPANESE LABOR BATTALIONS SEEK RECOGNITION

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 17 Mar 82 p 8

[Article: "Future of Former Members of Japanese-Sponsored Heiho Organization Will Be Presented to the International Court of Justice"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--The case of about 75,000 former members of the Heiho force [an organization of labor troops from Indonesia established by the Japanese Army during World War II], of Indonesian origin, will be presented to the International Court of Justice if the Indonesian government is not prepared to act as their "intermediary" in the struggle over their future with the Japanese government.

This was stated by the general chairman of the Heiho Families Welfare Association Foundation, Dr Sanyoto Prayitno, to Antara News Agency after he was received by the deputy chairman of Parliament, R Kartidjo, at the Parliament building in Jakarta on Tuesday [16 March].

In the view of the general chairman of the Foundation, because the former members of the Heiho have documents appointing them as members of the Heiho force, they should also have letters of recognition as former members of the Heiho from the Japanese government. Furthermore, according to Sanyoto Prayitno, who returned to Indonesia one week before the proclamation of independence, [in August, 1945], former members of the Heiho force who are still living are demanding "their salaries as Heiho members for 3 1/2 years," because during the period of their service up to the end of the war between Japan and the Allies they never received any salary.

According to his statement, his organization has been in contact with the Japanese Embassy in Jakarta and was informed that the Heiho question was resolved in the Japan-Indonesian peace treaty of 30 January 1958, which provided for reparations from Japan. However, after the treaty was studied by his organization, it appeared that there was no provision of any kind which took care of the matter of former members of the Heiho force, he added. Therefore, he is working on behalf of the members of his organization who were members of the Heiho and whose age now is between 50 and 75 years old.

In the view of the general chairman of the foundation, if the Indonesian government is not prepared to help him in taking up this matter with the Japanese government, with the permission of the Indonesian government they will raise the matter with the International Court of Justice.

INDONESIA

JAPAN PROTESTS RESTRICTIONS ON LOG EXPORTS, FISH TRAWLING

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Article: "No Negotiations Possible on Prohibition on Exports of Logs and Fish Trawling Operations"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS--The decision of the government to halt the export of logs, beginning in 1985, and stop trawling operations throughout Indonesia, beginning in 1983, is a final decision which will not be changed. This statement of government policy was made by Minister of Agriculture Soedarsono Hadisapoetro.

The government statement ends any doubts among businessmen regarding the two government decisions. The statement is also an answer to Japan which, up to the present, was still looking for a way to reopen negotiations on the two government decisions.

Japan presented complaints and even threats to Indonesia when plans were made to stop the export of logs. This was because the implementation of the Indonesian plan will cause many wood processing industry companies in Japan to go out of business.

The same situation is also true in connection with fish trawling. Japan has asked that it continue to be permitted to carry on trawling operations. The reason is that at present in Indonesia there are eight Japanese businessmen who are carrying on joint ventures with Indonesia in fishing for shrimp with "tiger nets" in Irian Jaya and East Kalimantan waters. In 1980 Japanese imports of Indonesian shrimp totaled 7,000 tons. When the prohibition on fish trawling goes into effect, 3,500 people will lose their jobs, including 200 Japanese.

In its plan to halt the export of logs the government will handle the matter by phases. In 1982 exports of logs will be limited to 4.5 million cubic meters. In 1983 exports of logs will be limited to 3.0 million cubic meters. In 1984 the limit will be 1.5 million cubic meters, and in 1985 exports of logs will be completely halted.

In a meeting with the press last week the Directorate General of Forestry Affairs stated that Japan regards the plan to halt log exports in 1985 as a drastic kind of action. Japan feels its interests have been damaged because it was not invited to discuss the measures.

Over the long term the policy of the Indonesian government involves the life of Indonesian industry. Indeed, Indonesia has its own objections against Japan. Furthermore, Indonesia has encountered a hostile reception both in Hong Kong and in Japan. It appears that Japan will send a delegation to discuss the question of log exports.

In principle Indonesia has no objection to discussions, on condition that there is no discussion of the question of log exports. There can be discussion of the broad question of forestry matters. This was stated by the Directorate General of Forestry Affairs.

Regarding the abolition of trawling operations Japan will also hold discussions with Indonesia. In the future discussions it is hoped that the Indonesian side will provide facilities to Japanese trawling ships. In this connection Japan will present data on the possibility that 3,500 Indonesian workers will lose their jobs if eight Japanese fishing companies which operate fish trawlers are no longer permitted to engage in this activity.

The abolition of trawling operations is in accordance with Presidential Decision No 39 of 1980, which, beginning with several areas in Indonesia such as Java, Bali, and Sumatra, provided that these regions would be closed to trawling operations. Later, in the middle of 1981, the government limited the number of ships using "tiger nets" which were permitted to operate in waters off Indonesia.

At present there are 1,000 trawlers in operation in Indonesia. Later, beginning on 1 January 1983, the trawlers will no longer be permitted to operate in Indonesian waters.

Minister Soedarsono said that the abolition of trawling operations was intended to increase the income of traditional fishermen who fish for shrimp without trawls and to eliminate friction because of opposition between trawler owners and traditional fishermen and to guarantee the continuation of natural resources, including fish and shrimp spawn. To increase the shrimp catch, it is not necessary to use trawls. Gill nets or other kinds of nets can be used.

5176
CSO: 4213/49

MASHRIQ ON U.S.-USSR COMPETITION IN THIRD WORLD

CF080511 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 1 Apr 82 p 3

[Editorial: "The Mixup of Interests Among Big Powers"]

[Text] For some time now the use of strong language has been increasing in exchanges between the big powers. While the USSR is not willing to allow the United States to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union or threaten it with might, the Reagan administration has also been shouting that the military superiority gained by the Soviet Union during the past few years over the United States must be ended and that the Soviet Union shall not be allowed to do what it pleases wherever it pleases so.

The United States and the USSR are no doubt the leading world powers between whom peaceful competition goes hand in hand with the arms race. They also have a mixup of common interests in some areas. Both practice peaceful coexistence in relation to their respective areas of influence and at times also show quiet understanding of each other's interests. However, a majority of world nations believe that these two big powers should, in the interest of world peace, limit the production of destructive weapons, and respect the independence and nonalignment of smaller nations.

Unfortunately, for some time now, the use of strong language has become frequent in exchanges between these two big powers. It all began with the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, the Soviet Union has patently trampled the independence and nonalignment of a small country. In this way, the USSR has also threatened other smaller countries of the region. Clearly, it had no justification for doing what was done. The intervention damaged Soviet influence among the third world countries.

Pakistan is also one of the countries in this region which believes in peace and nonalignment and wants to remain aloof from big power politics. It also shuns all military alliances and blocs on the international as well as regional level. It has suffered the most from the Soviet interference in Afghanistan and is today apprehensive of its own independence. However, despite the patent dangers it is facing today, Pakistan has not agreed to become a military ally of the United States, although it could get free arms by just becoming a military partner in the defense plans of the United States. On the contrary, it rather chose to pay for the arms it is getting for defense.

It has been a policy of Pakistan to consider its commitment to nonalignment in its dealings with big powers. Therefore, while on one hand it has signed an arms purchase agreement with the United States and started a new kind of relation, on the other hand, it has refused to become an American camp follower in any of the current international and regional disputes. Pakistan, openly disagrees with the U.S. policy on the Arab and Palestinian questions. Similarly, it opposes the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan while supporting the policy of peaceful coexistence.

The entire Islamic world, the third world and the other world countries appreciate this policy of Pakistan, because, it is purely a matter of principle and is not based on support for the interests of this or that country. It is now the duty of the big powers also not to trample on the principles of peaceful coexistence for their own interests and to avoid the use of force in settling disputes.

The Afghan problem is not a problem that cannot be solved through political means. Russia, since the end of the World War II, has been supporting the independence of every subject nation. Therefore, it should not impede the freedom of the Afghan people, as it has. Similarly, the United States, which claims to be the champion of the human rights all over the world, does not adopt a positive role when it comes to the rights of the Arabs and the Palestinians.

The big powers, if they come out of the shells of their limited interests, and adopt the policy of adhering to their principles, can solve all problems causing anxiety to the world today.

CSO: 4203/105

CAUTION AGAINST PRESS CENSORSHIP EXPRESSED

Karachi DAWN in English 30 Mar 82 p 9

[Editorial: "The State of the Press"]

[Text] AN OFFICIAL spokesman's statement that the Government is not considering a return to pre-censorship for newspapers may seem reassuring enough on the face of it, but it is really only a minor relaxation when the existing censorship laws are considered. In fact the very next words of the spokesman, that the Government is satisfied with the way the media is discharging its responsibilities, especially in the last few days, is a clear indication of the extent to which the media is being permitted to live up to its *raison d'être*. The reference to the more satisfactory performance of the press in the last few days is a pointer to the brief period following lifting of pre-censorship when political figures emerged from their shells and tried some loud-thinking on ways of solving the present impasse. These discussions, which sometimes lacked in coherence and remained inconclusive, were faithfully reported by the press. There may have been a few papers which dramatised reports, but editorial styles and policies differ vastly and, after all, the fact that talks were being held without undue distress being noticed in the present Govern-

ment leaders was a dramatic enough event. The attitude of newspapers was on the whole restrained, nevertheless this brief South Asian summer, so to say, was followed by the President's wintry remark that newspapers could be shut down for five years if it was felt necessary. The recent wholesale political tasks, when coupled with the Government's tolerant view of them as compared to previous days, seemed to suggest the possibility of a meaningful dialogue between the Government and the political leaders. This was something of vital importance to the country, and something in which every citizen must have been interested to a greater or lesser degree. How can the media possibly be considered less than responsible for reporting on these developments? A salutary side-effect, for both Government and the national news media, was that newspapers regained some of the readers' lost confidence. Quite a few people found that they could rely on their own newspapers for objective information and did not have to tune in to foreign radio stations to satisfy their hunger for the news.

The imposition or withdrawal of pre-censorship does not have all that much impact on the degree of control exercised over the press. Among the laws used for this purpose there is in the first place that sturdy survivor, the Press and Publications Ordinance, which has not been repealed. Although this ordinance is comprehensive enough, MLR 49 drives the last nail into the coffin. This is an almost blanket authorisation to prevent publication of just about anything for a variety of reasons, including 'the purposes of martial law', and violation is punishable by imprisonment upto 10 years and upto 25 stripes, in addition to a fine. What is difficult to understand is how it is hoped to conceal or suppress news in the presence of the grapevine which runs through the country and, above all, with so many radio networks in other countries taking a keen interest in Pakistan's political situation. News of political developments in the country is prominently broadcast by a number of networks and, from the Government's point of view, these

possibly do more harm than the same news published locally. In the first place, some of these networks are not known for any particular sympathy towards the present Government, and it is quite possible for prejudice to creep into news, broadcasts or commentaries. Moreover, whatever is broadcast is readily disseminated within the country, and in most cases greater distortions are thereby created. The fond belief that putting a curb on local newspapers, and reports of dissent, will create a better 'impression' abroad does not hold either for these reasons. Also, it must not be overlooked that after all there is martial law in the country, and no martial law was ever imposed without a greater or lesser degree of dissent. Placing the media under restraint is at best non-productive, although it would be closer to the truth to say that it is harmful for the country and the people. Certain secondary purposes may be served by such action, but on the whole it does little good even for the government in power.

CSO: 4220/483

CONSENSUS ON TRANSFER OF POWER SUPPORTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Mar 82 p 7

[Text] AS THE ECHOES of Interior Minister Haroon's reported statement – which he later explained away as the result of misunderstanding – on the link between elections in Pakistan and the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan had begun to fade, the CMLA-President has given his views on the process that will lead to the transfer of power.

Talking to a group of Pakistanis in Jeddah recently, Gen. Zia said that his Government's prime priority was the Islamisation of national institutions, and that once this had been achieved he would hand over power to "a good Pakistani" and quit. He went on to explain that the results of his Government's policies might not be visible today, but since they were moving in the right direction, "these policies were bound to show good results – may be in a decade."

Unanswered questions

If these two averments are to be read together as a statement of political intent, many important questions are left unanswered.

are left unanswered.

And, more importantly, will the people get a government of their choice only after the satisfactory completion of the Islamisation process? Not only that, how will "the good Pakistani" – in whose hands the reins of power are

to be placed – be chosen? Will he be the leader of the majority party in the National Assembly? And what if the elected leader, who obtains majority support in the elected assembly, is not considered by others to be a good Pakistani? These and related questions need to be answered with some clarity if the dust of confusion is to settle and the country's future polity is to be clearly defined. As the CMLA-President himself said a few days ago, unfortunately the Holy Book does not favour any particular constitutional pattern. Therefore, plainly it is for the people's representatives to determine how they are to evolve a constitution that will govern society in accordance with the principles to which the vast majority of our people adhere.

A consensus

It seems plain that neither the modalities of the projected transfer of power nor its time schedule have yet been determined by the Government and its large array of advisers. On the other hand, the vast majority of the country's political parties are near to evolving a consensus which embraces at least two major points, namely, the revival of the 1973 Constitution and early elections, so that the people are, once again, permitted to choose their rulers and guide the country's future policies. There are, of course, disagreements among the leaders of public opinion on various issues, but it is generally agreed that these points of difference, if they cannot be resolved

through informal confabulations, should be determined by the newly elected National Assembly. Thus, the main question which remains to be settled is that of a provisional government whose only task it will be to organize the general election. Even this problem should present no insuperable hurdles. Since it is agreed with gratifying unanimity that the country should revert to the democratic path, it should not be difficult to agree on an interim arrangement that will carry with it the guarantee of free and impartial elections. And, considering the situation within the country and on its borders, it is also agreed that earnest efforts should be made to end the present state of uncertainty.

The best and simplest solution is that the formula devised by the political parties in their promised declaration should form the basis of discussions on arrangements to be made for an early and smooth transfer of power from the present regime — which has always regarded itself as interim — to a government elected by the people in accordance with the Constitution that had virtually received the country's unanimous approval.

CSO: 4220/487

GOVERNMENT'S LACK OF TRUST IN PEOPLE DEPLORED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 25 Mar 82 pp 5, 6

[Excerpt] [Incomplete paragraphs as published]

The events and mishaps of the last ten years are too recent to call for a detailed narration

In lamenting the failure to achieve significant results, it would be unfair not to acknowledge that in certain fields some measure of progress has been made. However, the important thing is to measure our achievements in comparison with what should and could have been accomplished since the dawn of freedom. Although new industries have gone up, agriculture is increasingly being mechanized and improved, and education has spread a little, the fact must be admitted that the vast majority of our people still live below the poverty line. Pakistan's economy remains debt-ridden and dependent on foreign largesse, which exacts a price in both economic and political terms. Our policies have created small pockets of affluence, but the benefits of development have not percolated to the base, and the mass of our people remain steeped in ignorance, decimated by avoidable disease and hunger, and unable to visualise a better future for themselves or their children.

Industrial growth, profit-oriented, does not always meet national requirements; despite instalments of land reforms, agriculture is still dominated by the latifundia, with all its evil consequences; and the liberal trade policy adopted steadily worsens the annual balance of payments. The prime cause obviously lies in the fact that a tangled skein of control by the so-called elite runs through our political history and has prevented realization of the people's expectations.

Before attempting to indicate possible solutions to currently accentuated problems, it needs to be reiterated that neither the problems nor their solutions are really new. Since the very beginning, the pattern of rule set by the Muslim League has proved to be an obstacle to orderly progress, and this pattern has not changed over the years. For most political parties, groups or individuals who have ruled the land, the acquisition of power was an end in itself. Slogans considered popular were invented and public support was mobilized. They climbed on the backs of the people to cross the drawbridge and storm the ramparts and go on to capture the citadel

Once they were seated on the throne, the pledges made and the manifestos issued were quickly forgotten. Instead of following the more difficult course of retaining the people's goodwill by working for their welfare and respecting their wishes, the easier method of misusing the State machinery was employed in order to suppress murmurs of discontent. Then, help and support were always sought from elements who are the permanent allies of every incumbent—the sycophants who have no principles to serve but only vested interests to protect. The influx of these types into every ruling party has always helped to dilute or destroy its intrinsic characteristics, and their unprincipled advice always favours buying support rather than winning it, the use of the small carrot and the big stick. The more completely a regime has adhered to this formula of convenience for its retention of power, the more completely it has alienated itself from the people, and, thus, the more reluctant it became to respect democratic norms.

Further, with harsh restrictions imposed on political functioning, far too often the Opposition parties have easily been driven by frustration to

lack of faith in democracy and absence of trust in the people. Thus, over the years institutions have steadily been corroded, not only in respect of the State structure but in all other spheres of national life. A whole new generation has grown up

A contagious rot has set in as, while continuing to pay lip-service to religious values or high principles, the worship of mammon pervades our society. This state of affairs must be remedied if the nation is to be saved from sinking deeper into the mire, and the future viability of the State guaranteed. The fact that internal disarray is accompanied by instability on our borders makes it even more imperative that our domestic crises must be overcome, so that we are able to cope with the threatening international dangers.

the military regime,

visualises a evolutionary process which, it is promised, will take Pakistan safely to the threshold of . It is argued by custodians of power and

The political parties hold the view that the only rational solution to the country's prolonged crisis lies in early restoration of the 1973 Constitution, which was formulated with unanimous support

from the nation's elected representatives, and a general election that would allow the people

determine the direction that Pakistan is to follow in the years to come.

The chasm that lies between these two standpoints must be bridged without delay,

MANPOWER SMUGGLING REPORTED ON RISE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Mar 82 p 3

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 29: A gang of Pakistani agents is reportedly active on the country's eastern borders to arrange illegal entry into Pakistan of nationals from Bangladesh and some other countries for sending them over to the Middle East.

An authentic source said he saw many Bengali nationals working in Karachi on small jobs who have entered Pakistan from Khem Karan and after a brief sojourn in Kasur went on to Karachi.

The source, quoting Bengali nationals, said each person soliciting services of highly-organised agents was charged Rs. 3,000 for simple entry and another Rs. 4,000 for their safe transportation to Karachi.

The source said not less than 3,000 B.D. nationals, who were desperate of trying their luck in the affluent Arab countries, had taken up cooking and other jobs to collect enough money to pay for the cost of the onward journey. They would use Karachi as their transit camp for making necessary preparations before entering the Middle East again through legal or illegal means.

When asked as to how they could adopt legal means while they were not the bona fide citizens of Pakistan, the source said they were paying an additional sum of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 for the Pakistani

identity cards and a similar amount for a fresh passport.

"In a large city like Karachi, their presence was not felt and by virtue of their knowing the language and the local traditions they would simply adjust themselves easily and quickly". Those who by any chance could not leave Pakistan were earning better wages here, he added.

A B.D. national with whom the source claimed to have talked, disclosed that they were feeling at home in Pakistan and were free to move about.

They said they were in contact with their relatives and friends in their own country who also expressed their wish to visit Pakistan as soon as they had enough money to make a move.

The source did not elaborate when asked as to how they travelled across India, but added agents were operating everywhere and this was also possible through them.

Competent sources from Quetta and other border areas have confirmed that groups of foreign nationals from Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have been spotted while trying to cross over to Iran. Those who preferred to travel by steamers or ships were stationed at Karachi till such time as they got the right contacts to facilitate their exit. Recently a good number of all such aliens, who had failed to cross over to the neighbouring countries, were repatriated after becoming destitutes.

CSO: 4220/483

POLICE CORRUPTION CRITICIZED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 25 Mar 82 p 7

[Text]

ACCORDING to a recent Press report, Punjab's Inspector-General of Police, seemingly irked by harsh criticism of police functioning, made the cryptic remark: "You get the police you deserve".

Is it meant that reform of the police is dependent on reform of the citizens – all citizens?

People free to blame

With our police, corruption, high-handedness and inefficiency are part of a hoary tradition. As always it needs helpers and collaborators; so there are touts and professional witnesses among hangers-on at most police stations. Some individuals may also suborn the police to help them pursue their criminal careers with impunity; smugglers, bandits or murderers try to develop good connections with the uniformed arm of the law, and they may take pre-emptive steps by fixing a regular commission for it, so that their own crimes remain untraced. But these activities cannot be blamed on the people. As far as the general public is concerned, nothing would make them happier than to have their grievances redressed promptly, and this would become much easier if the law-enforcers could be persuaded to perform their duties honestly and were compelled to abide

by the law. It is no great secret that the black sheep in the police force, and they are not so few, are known to be congenitally corrupt. Very rarely are any of them apprehended, and when this does happen, as in the recent case of the SHO Tibbi (which has for years been regarded as a prize post and was rumoured to be available to the highest bidder), the arrest of a police officer always causes a pleasant surprise.

The corrupt police officer refuses to perform his normal duty and expects extra payment for his trouble; and where the aggrieved person has no other recourse, such as recommendation from some high-up in the administration, he has no option but to offer the money demanded. Worst still are officers who threaten to act against innocent person or make wrongful arrests, and virtually hold their victims to ransom until they can be rescued by payment of blackmail money that is sought to be extorted. Equally reprehensible are the police methods used during investigation of a crime or for obtaining 'evidence' in order to ensure conviction in a court of law. Suspects are often tortured and made to confess, perhaps, to crimes that they have not committed. The wholly illegal arrest of the suspect's relations, including women, is not unknown, and the cover for this violation of the law is that they are being invited to assist in the investigation. All too frequently, the Press cites cases of

citizens having died in police custody, because the torturers went too far. However, one has not heard of many cases of culpable homicide being registered against the policemen concerned. These tales of victimization one hears often, but seldom do people talk of an honest and earnest effort to find the real criminals and discover truthful evidence of their guilt. Why?

A long story

The story of what is wrong with the Punjab police, from failure to perform their duties to gross misuse of authority, from petty corruption to partnership in big crimes, is a long one, and someone who has risen to the top of the ladder in the force must be fully aware of what goes on. His duty should be to advise the Government to take necessary steps to cleanse and reorganize the police force, and, judging by the steps announced after the last Cabinet meeting, it seems that something is going to be attempted. Any such effort will have the people's unstinted support and blessings. These measures should include an increase in emoluments, in order to root out routine corruption, and recruitment of persons with some sort of a conscience. Reform of the police would help to reduce the burden which it now constitutes on the backs of the people, and also help to curb crime.

If, however, the Punjab I.G.P. can think of some other novel

method to deal with the situation, he should explain in greater detail what is expected of the people by the police before it can be persuaded to abide by the law and regulations that are supposed to guide its functioning.

CSO: 4220/487

LIFTING BAN ON WESTERN DRESS WELCOMED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 25 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] SECOND thoughts, invariably wiser, have persuaded Authority to lift the ban on Western dress for Government servants. At least for the coming summer, a bushshirt plus trousers, and one hopes other like alternatives, may be worn.

This will bring much relief to all concerned, and particularly to those who find it necessary to count every rupee carefully in order to balance domestic budgets. Whatever the reasons that have made the Government amend its earlier decision, it is sensible. Apart from the fact that acceptance of the short coat worn with a shalwar as part of our national dress had no justification—and the combination looked either comic or ghastly—, it has probably been realized that maintaining cleanliness and neatness with a shalwar-kurta outfit is an expensive business.

Not by dress alone

Promotion of things national, including dress, is unexceptionable, even laudable, but compulsory uniformity in sartorial matters is not really necessary. By all means, let a proper national dress be prescribed for formal and ceremonial occasions, but for every-day working clothes it should be left to everyone to make his own choice and pay due regard to economy and utility. Nor is the Western dress any longer purely Western, because it

has virtually been adopted worldwide. And it should be remembered that when Attaturk sought to regenerate his people, he issued decrees favouring Western clothes. King Amanullah had issued orders for a similar change of garb for official occasions before the British decided to get rid of him for invoking Afghan nationalism and working for the country's independence.

Enforcing such restrictions does not necessarily invoke the national spirit, and it will not help to change the senior bureaucrats' elitism or reduce his alienation from the people. For that other steps must be taken so that the bureaucrat begins to adjust his attitudes. Now that the right step has been taken with regard to Government servants, one hopes that the decision will be extended to students for whom the change introduced can cause a great deal of inconvenience. Here again, restrictions on dress should be made applicable only for formal occasions, and for the rest convenience should be made the main criterion and the matter should be left to the head of each educational institution.

And, since the summer, however long, will give way to winter, the concession allowed should be made permanent—for all seasons.

CSO: 4220/487

ON KHAWAJA SAFDAR'S TALK, COMMENTS

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 25 Mar 82 pp 7-8

[Text] **KHAWAJA M. SAFDAR**, Chairman of the Federal Advisory Council, urgently needs, and fully deserves, the services of an efficient, hard-working, bilingual Public Relations Officer—preferably a Punjabi, so that he can decipher his employer's written Urdu and understand his spoken English and act as an interpreter when required.

Although the Khawaja is only the nominates' Chairman of a nominated body, this does not, in today's circumstances, detract from his status as a VIP; even if others may disagree, he himself accepts this position, judging by the tone and content of his speeches and statements and their frequency. He believes, and has often said so, that in the absence of a proper parliament the Federal Advisory Council can and should act the National Assembly's role. The perks and privileges allowed to Council members have been cited as one proof. Anyhow, as first among a large number of carefully selected advisers, Khawaja Safdar thinks that he has gained in stature and feels impelled to function as a national leader; he pronounces opinions on various issues and insists that his views should be taken seriously by everyone. He has promised, for example, that his Council will go down in history as a stepping stone to parliamentary democracy, and has prognosticated that elections would be held soon—within or after a year.

Chairman's chores

Despite the crumbling credibility of former Muslim Leaguers of varying

brands, some people consider it proper or expedient to give attention to the Khawaja's declarations. Thus, when last week the Election Commission held a routine meeting (merely to say 'hallo' to the new Chairman and shake hands with each other), certain newsmen, impressed by Khawaja Safdar's repetitive references to elections, put two and two together to make five and said that a directive had been issued to the body to make ready for elections at short notice. Other matters of import also engage Chairman Safdar's concentrated attention. He has reportedly told off all politicians, including old colleagues, for not being earnest enough about their mission, for forsaking past pledges, and for not agreeing to unite so that, in collaboration with the regime, they could facilitate the early emergence of a new democracy whose framework has yet to be defined. Then, the Chairman, in pursuit of establishing the Council's rights and duties, has to cope with an array of Ministers and various Government departments; he also has to maintain the Councillors' morale, keep the Select Committees going, and formulate their advice before submitting it to Government. He also has the ego-building task of receiving foreign dignitaries, so that he can explain to them how the Council works and how it will make preparations for its own demise by creating the appropriate climate for allowing the people to recover their right to choose their representatives, instead of leaving it to Government to carry the burden of selecting them.

Many benefits

These time-consuming chores and other multifarious tasks take up a great deal of time and require much intellectual effort. No person, however good his mental and physical stamina, can possibly cope with them single-handedly. It is not always possible to remember what one has said on a previous occasion on the same subject; hence, contradictions creep in. Then, in today's competitive world, the activities of other PROs have to be countered even combatted. The media has to be cultivated, fed with its customary diet of Press releases, or, when appropriate, served with suitable inside information (to be published without attribution), and kept happy and sympathetic through other well-known methods. In all this, Chairman Safdar clearly requires the services of an experienced PRO to help vet his speeches, record and catalogue them, issue prompt contradictions as and when necessary and expedient, and ensure that the media gives him sufficient space and time. It is strongly recommended, therefore, that while finalizing the rules and regulations for the Advisory Council and working out details of members' privileges, Government should give priority to the appointment of a PRO for the Chairman.

If for some reason this is not possible, Khawaja Safdar himself should engage a suitable person to undertake this onerous responsibility. The investment will be worth while; and even if he cannot give him an appropriate salary now, it could be supplemented with an IOU promising a more lucrative appointment in the future.

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CSO: 4220/487

PROBLEMS OF PAKISTANIS ABROAD DISCUSSED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Mar 82 pp 7-8

[Text] **THE DISCLOSURE** made by the Federal Labour Minister that more than 6,000 Pakistani citizens are under detention in Saudi Arabia will naturally be viewed with grave concern; and Ghulam Dastgir Khan's bland promise that he will take up the matter with the Saudi authorities during his projected visit to that country will not allay widespread anxiety – until more facts are made available.

It is not known why this large number of Pakistanis are languishing in prison in the Holy Land. Have they been convicted of some offence? Are all of them guilty of illegal entry into the country? How long have they been in prison? And what has so far been done to obtain their release and repatriation? If, as is alleged, most of them are illegal migrants, this is a sad reflection on the working of the stringent regulations enforced by Government over recent years to control travel by job-seekers eager to take advantage of the petro-dollar bonanza. Since manpower has been our best export item for many years, it should have been possible by now to ensure that the sharks among travel agents taking undue advantage of the milieu were driven out of business and emigration was restricted to those assured of reasonably gainful employment at the other end.

Other problems

Apart from this aspect of the matter, it is anyhow essential that the

whole situation should be carefully reviewed and sensible policies devised, so that workers, whether skilled, semi-skilled, or unskilled, are allowed to proceed abroad only under careful controls. Far too often, one hears of reports from various countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, that Pakistanis begging for help and employment on any terms have created the image of our nation being one of beggars. "Pakistani *miskeen*" is said to be a common greeting. It is also necessary to realize that avenues for employment in oil-rich Arab countries are gradually becoming more restricted. In Saudi Arabia, for example, a serious effort is being made to put their own people to work, in order to reduce the quantum of foreign labour, and even women are now being encouraged to take up jobs. Proper plans need to be formulated, therefore, for a return within the next few years of a large number of workers now usefully employed. In many Gulf States, major projects are coming to an end, and fewer new projects are likely. Anyhow, controls are necessary to ensure that, particularly in the case of skilled workers, our own country is not denuded of its requirements. This has already happened in certain sectors, and the effort to train more people to replace the 'exports' are seemingly both haphazard and insufficient.

Investment

Further, while the bonanza lasts, it is not enough for us to count the

petro-dollars and be satisfied with the large amount of foreign exchange that is repatriated by the Pakistanis living abroad. The funds are certainly useful, and have helped to cushion our precarious balance of payments position. Looking ahead, however it is necessary to create conditions for investment, so that the bulk of this money is no longer used on the import into Pakistan of various categories of luxury goods. This merely adds to the artificial affluence and tends to increase inflationary pressures. A great deal has been talked about diverting these funds into projected investment, but little or nothing has been done about it.

It would be useful if plans were formulated by experts among those who have lived abroad for many years, and are now beginning to return, to make use of the foreign exchange earned by Pakistani citizens in a manner that would help national development and thus create job opportunities for the employment of repatriated manpower — a process that will begin sooner than is expected.

CSO: 4220/487

MORE COOPERATION WITH SRI LANKA STRESSED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Mar 82 p 8

[Text] ISLAMABAD, March 19: Pakistan and Sri Lanka have expressed their firm resolve to step up level of bilateral commercial and economic co-operation on the basis of mutual benefits and in conformity with the boundless goodwill and friendship which symbolise relations between the two countries.

The affirmation came from leaders of the delegations of Pakistan and Sri Lanka who met here this morning to review current position of their trade and to explore possibilities of expanding it further.

Federal Commerce Minister, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, led the home side at the negotiations which included the Commerce Secretary, Izharul Haq and senior officials of the Commerce Division. Lalith Athulathmudali, Minister for Trade and Shipping of Sri Lanka, who arrived here yesterday, led his side which comprised Sri Lankan Ambassador, concerned Embassy officials and members of his delegation.

Referring to the cordial bonds and common perception characterising Pak-Sri Lanka relations, Ghulam Ishaq Khan stated that the present annual turn over of bila-

teral trade of about \$75 million did not reflect the growth potential of the two countries. He said ample opportunities existed to enlarge the scope of mutually beneficial collaboration in trade and other economic activities.

The Minister pointed out that the agreement guiding trade relations between Pakistan and Sri Lanka was signed as far back as 1955 and as such had become obsolete. He suggested that the agreement should be revised to represent present requirements of the two countries. He also proposed creation of institutional arrangements to regulate the two way trade on systematic and realistic lines. Such arrangements, he stressed, could contribute in expanding commercial ties considerably.

The Commerce Minister apprised the Sri Lankan side of the range of goods which Pakistan could export. He said the country had attained a sound industrial base and was in a position to export variety of manufactured items like engineering goods and services, sugar and cement plants, steel billets, pig iron sheets and plates and coke and carbon black. This was in addition to all sorts of consumer goods and semi manufactures. He felt that exchange of trade teams both in public and private sectors and organization of Pak trade fair in Sri Lanka could lead in enhancing

the volume of trade.

He also assured that Pakistan would do its best to meet the import needs of Sri Lanka with regard to rice, dried fish and cotton.

Lalith Athulathmudali said that friendship between Pakistan and Sri Lanka was not confined to their governments - it was blossoming on people to people level. He said his country was keen to promote trade links with Pakistan.

Lalith Athulathmudali also met the Federal Minister for Communications, Mohayyuddin Baluch this noon.

The Communication Minister briefed the Sri Lankan Minister about to Karakoram Highway, International Gateway Exchange, shipping ports, repairing facility upto 30,000 tons ships in the country and the government's planning to expand Pakistan National Shipping Corporation's present fleet in the near future.

The meeting, which lasted about an hour, discussed possibilities of regional collaboration in the field of shipping, particularly in developing bulk carriers and other allied matters.

Among those present on the occasion included Communication Secretary, F.K. Bandial and Sri Lanka's Ambassador in Pakistan, Oscar De Livera.

CSO: 4220/483

SENSIBLE POLICY ON EXPORTS URGED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Mar 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Exports Without Tears"]

[Text]

THE need for increasing Pakistan's exports is undoubtedly great. While the imports have been close to double the exports, determined efforts have to be made to increase exports and diversify their variety, instead of depending too heavily on raw products like rice and cotton. But there are serious constraints to acceleration of exports due to our economic structure.

Sugar manufacturers also want to export sugar. They estimate production this year at 1.2 million tons, while our need is placed at 900,000 tons.

But before Pakistan embarks on exporting sugar at a greatly reduced price compared to its high three-tiered internal price structure, it should at least restore the cut in sugar rationing of one kilo per head. The cut by about 20 per cent was enforced when the sugar industry in the country had failed and sugar prices around the world had shot up sky high.

When the sugar industry was facing a crisis and sugar prices abroad had shot up, consumers in Pakistan did make a sacrifice by reducing consumption and paying higher prices for the little they consumed. This should not be made the norm even when the country has a large surplus and prices around the world have crashed. The people, too must feel they are the beneficiaries of the country's prosperity and industrial growth instead of being asked to sacrifice so much in periods of scarcity as well as plenty.

In fact, what is involved in the current economic debate is the very philosophy of pricing. Should prices that go up through official steps never come down? Should taxes that are raised to meet specific needs at specific periods never come down? Should the country not think in terms of economic or fair prices instead of the hapless consumer being always at the receiving end of the stick?

Clearly if Pakistan has to export more it has to improve its industrial efficiency and keep the cost of production low and quality high. The managements have to be efficient, systematic and be content with reasonable profit instead of expecting very high profits. The tax structure has to become realistic and progressive instead of remaining regressive success in the export sphere depends on such structural changes.

NEED FOR HIGH TECHNOLOGY STRESSED

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 29 Mar 82 p 12

[Text]

ISLAMABAD. March 28: Nobel Prize winner scientist Dr. Abdus Salam has said that Pakistan must acquire high technology and fairly increase expenditures on science education.

At a Press conference here last night, Dr. Salam maintained that scientists should have their say in the policy-making for the development of science and technology and should be consulted specially on the budgetary allocation in the field.

He said there was an urgent need that the job of scientists, technologists and engineers should be made more attractive by increasing incentives and facilities for them.

Dr. Salam told newsmen that President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq was keenly interested in the development of science and technology especially the promotion of high technology in the country. He said this fact transpired during his meeting with the President yesterday.

He pointed out that six countries had drawn up the plan of setting up a bio-technology institute proposed by the UNIDO. He said that two Pakistani scientists, Dr. Bokhari, and Dr. Riazuddin had also made their contribution in preparing the plan. He said that India and Philippines had offered to host the proposed bio-technology institute. He said he had conveyed to the President that Pakistan should take initiative in offering to set up such a centre. He said that the President had shown his keen interest in the proposal.

Dr. Salam said that bio-technology, micro-electronics and laser were the high technologies of the time and only those nations would lead in the scientific field who would acquire the knowledge of these three branches.

He said those countries which had participated in drawing up the plan of the Bio-Technology Institute included India, Philippines, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait. He said Pakistan should not remain behind the other developing countries in the pursuit of the technologies of the modern era.

In reply to a question relating to the Islamic Science Foundation, he said in 1973 he had presented a draft of the plan about the foundation during the previous regime. It had been proposed that the organisation should be started like Ford Foundation with a capital of one billion dollars. He said that the project was finally started in 1981 and 50 million dollars were allocated for the purpose. So far Saudi Arabia had paid 5 million dollars out of its total share of 15 million dollars.

In reply to another question he said there had been much talk about transfer of technology in the country. He said that the most practicable and beneficial step was the transfer of science education and the inevitable outcome would be an advancement of science and technology.

PAKISTAN

IBRD WILLINGNESS TO FINANCE PROJECTS REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 30 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] The World Bank Mission has expressed its willingness to finance various water supply and sewerage schemes in Karachi.

This was disclosed by Mr W. E. Siebeck, Chief of the World Bank Resident Mission, at a meeting with the Major of Karachi, Mr Abdus Sattar Afghani on Monday morning.

The Mayor informed the Mission that KMC is making all out efforts to provide maximum possible civic services to the people of Karachi.

In this connection, he said that to streamline the supply of drinking water the Government of Sind has constituted a Board. This Water Management Board has been entrusted with the job and are doing well within its limited resources, he added.

Mr Afghani, welcoming the proposal of the World Bank assistance, gave a detailed report about the achievements and the on-going projects of the Corporation, with special reference to Lyari and Orangi areas.

The Mission expressed satisfaction over the pace of work and observed that, if approved, the World Bank would play a positive role in contributing to the development work of the Metropolitan Corporation.

The meeting, which lasted for over two hours, was attended among others, by the Deputy Mayor, Financial Adviser, Chief Engineer, General Manager, Water Management Board and other high officials of the KMC.

WAPDA Project

APP adds: Mr Peter Thalwitz, the visiting World Bank Director, discussed the proposed details for the implementation of the Rs 3,740 million first stage of WAPDA, South (Water) Organisation in Karachi on Monday.

The LBOD project in the first stage envisages the construction of a big drain with a capacity of 4,000 cusecs, based on the feasibility report, recently prepared by WAPDA's Consultants, M/s. McDonald and Partners of U.K. The project also details construction of three scarp schemes on the left bank of river Indus, so that the saline affluent can be pumped into this drain. This project is located in the civil districts of Sanghar, Tharparkar and Badin and would benefit an area of 18,00,000 acres.

OCEANOGRAPHY INSTITUTE TO START ON 15 PROJECTS

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 29 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] A number of advanced countries including Japan, USA, UK and Germany and some Muslim countries have offered their assistance and cooperation to the National Institute of Oceanography, established just eight months back in Karachi, in the field of oceanography.

This was stated by Dr. Salahuddin Qureshi, Director of the Institute at a radio press conference in Karachi yesterday. Salahuddin said that the Assistant Secretary of UNESCO who recently visited the institute also assured of making available fellowships for our scientists and necessary instruments, while Japan will provide special instruments for the institute's laboratory and expertise under the Colombo Plan.

He said that initially the government has provided Rs. 50 lakh for the execution of a 2-year development plan in the first phase. He said the institute during the eight months of its creation has identified the areas of operation, fixed the priorities and prepared 15 projects work on which start shortly.

The institute, he explained would undertake research on the hidden sea resources and their exploitation for the country's greater economic upliftment. He said that Pakistani seas were rich in minerals, oil and gas, fisheries etc. and with the full-fledged functioning of this institute country's dependence on foreign technologies in deep sea mining, minerals extraction, deep sea fishing, drilling etc. would be greatly reduced to

a great extent.

Dr. Salahuddin pointed out that the previous governments did not realise the importance of the oceanographic field and the credit of its establishment goes to the present government alone.

He said that the institute will also participate in studies on problems such as rising pollution in Karachi harbour, silting at Port bin Qasim.

To a question Dr. Salahuddin said that our scientists were quite anxious and ambitious in this field and the Institute would be able to have required manpower through on the job training and also through the experts. He said that Pakistani experts working abroad had also assured their co-operation.

He said that during the last 8 months the institute had been able to set up its laboratory and an exhaustive library covering every subject relating to the field of oceanography.

The institute had also set up national oceanographic data centre and had prepared a catalogue of information in 100 parameters of the seas.

MARINE INDUSTRY

Salahuddin said that the results achieved from the implementation of the projects would greatly help in the development of the marine industry and setting up of an infrastructure on the basis of which

a number of industries would come up.

The institute, he said, had also prepared a project to overcome pollution from the Karachi harbour and the sea. He said such 4-5 projects have also been prepared under which energy could be produced by the conversion of wave energy. He said that Japan had made a big headway in this sector. He said that energy could also be produced from the sea temperature difference.

He said the institute will have cooperation of all the universities of Pakistan. He suggested that universities should have one or the other subjects in oceanography. Similarly subjects in oceanography should also be introduced in schools and colleges so as to make the people "marineminded".

He said that the institute was having the cooperation of experts in remote sensing.

WORKSHOP

A workshop in oceanography is expected to be held in Pakistan in November next, disclosed Dr. Ghulam Salahuddin Qureshi, Director of the National Institute of Oceanography in Karachi yesterday.

He said the workshop will be organised by the Pakistan Science Foundation in collaboration with the US science foundation and a proposal for the workshop has already been sent to the US Foundation.

TRACTOR COMPONENTS TO BE MADE IN PAKISTAN

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Mar 82 p 10

[Text] The Federal Minister for Production and Railways, Lt-Gen. Saeed Qadir, has said that Pakistan will start manufacturing 85 per cent tractor components within next two years.

Speaking to newsmen after laying the foundation stone of a Machine Shop and inaugurating the first locally assembled combine harvester at Millat Tractors, Lahore-Sheikhupura Road, on Monday morning, the Minister said that mechanisation of agriculture had become necessary, in view of scarcity of farm labour in rural areas. He said that use of agricultural implements was also needed to check wastage of crops through manual harvesting.

He said that Government had started indigenisation programme to cut production costs of agricultural implements and saving precious foreign exchange, used for import of machinery which can be fabricated in the country. The indigenisation programme for tractors had been launched last year and 30 per cent parts were now being manufactured locally by different engineering concerns. The percentage of locally made tractor parts was likely to increase to 70 per cent by June 1983. He said that Government was also studying the feasibility of making small tractors for farmers with smaller land holdings.

The Minister said that 23,000 tractors were being imported in completely knocked down condition for four tractor assembly plants in the country every year. One hundred combine harvesters had also been imported and were being used in different parts of the country. The combine harvester assembled in the country would cost Rs. 15,000 less than the imported ones. The farmer would pay only Rs. 40,000 at the time of taking delivery of the harvester and pay the remaining Rs. 65,000 in two instalments after harvesting two wheat crops. The imported harvester cost Rs. 1.2 lakh.

The Minister said that the combine harvester could be manufactured in the country in case the demand exceeded 200 harvesters a year. The manufacture would help in bringing down the costs for farmers. He said that Government was also planning indigenisation of Suzuki Vans and cars being assembled in the country at present. He said that public and private sector ancillary engineering industries making tractor parts will also make components of cars, later on.

He said that engineering goods industry would be able to start manufacturing sophisticated goods after the Pakistan Steel Mills would start marketing its sheet plates. He said that Steel Mills would

be completed by December 1983. He said Russians were supplying necessary equipment and giving technical assistance for the project promptly. Answering a question he said that steel sheets manufactured by Pakistan Steel Mills would not cost more than the imported sheets.

The Production Minister said that Government was not only attending to the expansion of the industry but also to the training of the skilled personnel required for the new industries. All the units run by the Production Ministry were training personnel not only for their own requirements, but also for the requirements of the industries proposed to be set up in the future.

The Managing Director of Millat Tractor said that the factory warehouse had spare parts worth Rs. 3 crore. The spare parts of tractors imported during the past 30 years were always kept in stock.

The Machine Shop being built at the factory will cost Rs. 11.4 crore. It will manufacture five major components of tractor engine i.e. transmission case, centre housing, engine block, engine sump and cylinder heads. The five components constitute almost 25 per cent weight of a tractor and will be major value added to the manufacture programme.

BRIEFS

MOVE TO ATTRACT REMITTANCES--JEDDAH, March 27--Remittances by Pakistani immigrants to their country, in cash and kind, now almost equal the country's annual export receipts, according to N. H. Jaffery, Managing Director, National Investment Trust (NIT) of Pakistan. Jaffery who has just completed a visit to Saudi Arabia, told "Arab News" in an interview that the Pakistani immigrants are playing a significant role in the national economic life. "The estimated 3 billion dollars earnings from this single source is of major significance as this non-repatriable investment helps in expanding the industrial base and increase employment opportunities", he said. The NIT is making efforts to mop up savings of overseas Pakistanis for investment in productive channels at home he said. He explained benefits of NIT units to overseas Pakistani nationals. The NIT chief expressed the hope that even if NIT gets one per cent of the total remittances, it will go a long way to boost productive investment at home. During his stay, Jaffery held meetings with Pakistani nationals at Riyadh and Jedah, Earlier, he visited United Kingdom and Denmark. From Saudi Arabia he proceeded on a visit to Abu Dhabi and Dubai. [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 28 Mar 82 p 1]

PAKISTAN-IRAN EDUCATION COMMISSION--Islamabad, March 31--Iran and Pakistan have agreed to set up Pakistan-Iran Joint Ministerial Commission on education to facilitate visits of students, educationists, research fellows and exchange of information, experience and ideas in the field of education between the two countries. This decision was taken at a meeting between the visiting Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Education and Consular Matters of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jawad Mansoori, and Federal Education Minister, Mohammad Ali Khan, here this noon. The Education Minister briefed the Iranian Minister about Pakistan's education policy which aims at producing devout Muslims and patriotic Pakistanis in consonance with the aspirations of the nation. Mohammad Ali Khan said that Pakistan has reserved 35 seats yearly students from brotherly country Iran to study medical and engineering in Pakistan. In addition, 73 Iranian students are also studying in the country under cultural pacts while further 536 Iranian students are under education in various educational institutions of Pakistan, he added. The Iranian Deputy Minister expressed the hope that Iran will also consider to extend, in due course, such facilities to Pakistani students to study in the educational institutions of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 1 Apr 82 p 1]

PAKISTAN, HUNGARY BARTER AGREEMENT--March. 28--The new barter pact between Pakistan and Hungary envisages over five per cent increase in exchange of commodities. Goods worth \$35 million will be exchanged each way during the next two years as against 24 million dollars provided in the previous pact. The new pact was signed in Budapest by the Federal Secretary of Commerce Mr. Izharul Haq who led a three men team and the Deputy Minister for Foreign trade Mr. Tibor Melega, last week. Under the agreement raw cotton, light engineering goods cotton towels, garments cotton textiles and leather goods will be exported to Hungary. From Hungary Pakistan will import fertiliser, surgical and electro-medical equipment transformers conductors, traction motors for railways, and cable machine etc. [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 29 Mar 82 p 9]

AZAD KASHMIR SHOURA--SIALKOT, March 29--Majlis-e-Shoora in Azad Jammu and Kashmir is expected to be announced by mid-April by the President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, well-informed sources disclosed here today. [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Mar 82 p 6]

PUNJAB TEACHERS DEMANDS--The Punjab University Academic Staff Association (PUASA) at its meeting on Monday has decided that all teachers will stay away from their classes for one week starting April 11. The teachers say if their demands were not accepted by the University administration they would go on an indefinite strike. They have been demanding promotion of all eligible teachers and research staff, implementation of the 20-month-old decision of the Syndicate to lease land to all University employees and completion of Syndicate and Selection Board. Meanwhile, the PUASA has also expressed its full support to school teachers and strongly condemned the police high handedness. [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 30 Mar 82 p 5]

AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN SIGNED--ISLAMABAD, March 29--Pakistan has entered into an agreement with the Government of Japan for the project modernisation and machining technology under their project-type technical co-operation, this was officially stated here on Monday. The project would include supply of machinery and equipment, despatch of technical experts and providing training for counter-part personnel in Japan, with a total input of approximately 833,000 dollars. The project will be implemented by the Pakistan Industrial and Technical Assistance Centre (PITAC), Ministry of Industries, for a period of three years. An agreement to this effect was signed here this morning by Dr. Ryuzo Naito, leader of the Japanese implementation team of the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) and by Brig. M. A. Faruqui, General Manager, PITAC, Lahore. The five-member Japanese team which is on a visit to Pakistan had worked out the details of the technical co-operation programme concerning the modernisation and balancing of PITAC workshops at Lahore, in consultation with the authorities of the Ministry of Industries and PITAC. On completion of the project, PITAC will acquire the capability to manufacture sophisticated and intricate press tools, moulds, jigs, fixtures, gauges etc. to international standards which are hitherto imported from abroad, as well as providing training in the newly developed technologies of programmed machining and electro-forming. [Karachi DAWN in English 30 Mar 82 p 1]

SCIENCE POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT--PAISALABAD, March 25--Science Policy at long last is going to see the light of the day. This has been learned by The Muslim on conclusion of the recent session of the Federal Cabinet. The issue had been prolonged having been tabled in the different sessions of the Cabinet. The Draft Science Policy, which had been in the cold storage for over six years, has been referred to a sub-committee comprising Federal Ministers for Education, Agriculture, Finance, and Adviser to President for Higher Education. The Draft Policy has put forth a number of recommendations for adopting modern technology. The Policy observed that science had a vital role to play in the field of agriculture. The policy has laid special emphasis on dissemination of knowledge from the university and research laboratory to the farmer. It further suggests that the scientific technology pertaining to agriculture should be simple, inexpensive and familiar to the local conditions. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 26 Mar 82 p 6]

BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENT PLANS--QUETTA, March 27--The Baluchistan government was undertaking a special development plan costing Rs. 184.4 million in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and European Economic Community (EEC), stated Dr. Abdul Hameed Baber, Secretary Livestock Division here yesterday. Addressing a Radio Press conference, Dr. Baber said Rs. 87 million would be provided by the EEC while Rs. 75 million by the ADB. The Baluchistan government will finance the rest of the amount. Under the programme, grazing grounds would be developed in the province and fattening centres for lambs, rams and their offsprings would be set up. Under the programme, he added, dairy industry, too, would be developed and farms would be set up at Quetta, Khuzdar, Pishin and Loralai. Giving the number of sheep and goat in the province, he said, it stood at 1.3 million, the number of cattlehead and poultry in the province stood eight lakh and 2.5 million respectively. About animal diseases, he said, the government was making every effort to cure the diseases. According to him, about 48 veterinary hospitals and 256 veterinary dispensaries were at work in the province. He said the government was making every livestock assistant mobile so as to accelerate the medical aid to the animals. For that matter, the department had provided the assistants with motor-bikes and camels. Dr. Baber said the government had placed order for a thousand Fresian cows to set up dairy farms at Quetta, Pishin, Zhob and Loralai. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 28 Mar 82 p 6]

TEACHERS' STRIKE CONTINUES--LAHORE, March 29--The Action Committee of the Punjab Teachers Union said in a Press release that educational boycott of the teachers in villages and towns continued for the 22nd day yesterday. In a meeting of the joint front of the teachers held under the chairmanship of Maulana Abdul Ghaffar Ghaffari in Rawalpindi yesterday it was resolved that the boycott would continue till the acceptance of the teachers demands. According to the Press release, it was made clear during the meeting that the teachers would not hold talks with any committee or representative not having powers. Meanwhile a joint meeting of the All Pakistan Lecturers and Professors Associations and the Punjab Teacher Action Committee was held here yesterday with Mir Kallam Khan in chair. The meeting decided to take practical measures to get their demands accepted. According to the programme all the schools and colleges teachers in the country will wear black bands from April 14 to 17 and will boycott the classes daily for one hour from April 18 to 20. The meeting through unanimous resolution criticised the police action against the school teachers in Punjab and NWFP and called for immediate release of the arrested teachers. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Mar 82 p 6]

ITALIAN ASSISTANCE--Italy has agreed to provide Pakistan with fertilizer, tractors, technical assistance and training worth \$10 million to help increase agricultural production. This was stated at the meeting in Islamabad between the federal minister for food and agriculture Vice Adm Mohammad Fazil Janjua and a seven-member team of Italian technical experts. [BK081203 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Apr 82 BK]

GUINEA BISSAU LEADER STOPS OVER--President of Guinea Bissau Joao Bernardo Vieira made a brief stopover at Karachi airport this morning while on his way to the PDRK. He was received and seen off at the airport by Sind Governor Lt Gen S.M. Abbasi. [Text] [BK091021 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Apr 82]

NPP ON NON-ALIGNED STATUS--The defunct National Progressive Party, through a resolution, has noted with concern that Pak-Afghan relations were subjected to continuous strains and tensions. "In view of this situation, it is necessary that the non-aligned status of the country should be preserved through elected democratic institutions and all agreements which can affect our non-aligned status should immediately be abrogated", the resolution added. The resolution also called for the restoration of the 1973 Constitution without any further delay. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 11 Mar 82 p 12]

AWAMI LEAGUE REVIVED--The Awami League was declared revived by Malik Ghulam Jilani in Lahore last week. Making the announcement at a Press conference, he said that the only solution to the present crisis lay in restoring the 1977 National Assembly and transferring power to it, thus picking up the thread where it was broken, as it were. Malik Ghulam Jilani suggested that the Assembly of 1977 alone--and none else--should be entrusted with the responsibility of conducting general elections. He said the discharge of such a responsibility by a civilian set-up would meet the approval of the people. He further suggested that the National Assembly of 1977 should also hold provincial elections. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 11 Mar 82 pp 13-14]

BUREAUCRATS BLAMED FOR CONDITIONS--Syed Haider Farooq Maudoodi, son of the late Maulana Abul Ala Maudoodi, has said that the "national covenant" proposed by the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami was "sponsored by Government officials." Mr. Haider said in a Press statement that the "national covenant" was, in fact, an effort to "remove the country further away from democracy." He also criticised the mass arrests being made these days and said if the arrested people were really anti-social as authorities claimed, they should be tried in common courts. He said that, according to the tenets of Islam, no one could be kept in preventive detention for more than 24 hours and anyone held thus must eventually be produced in a court and, of course, there was no question of administering torture to him while in governmental custody. He regretted that the situation in the country was quite the contrary. Police harassed not only the detenus but their relations, too, he said. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 11 Mar 82 p 14]

REFUGEES BLAMED FOR SMUGGLING--In a report submitted to the Sind Government, the local authorities have said that a large quantity of arms is being brought into the city from up-country and being sold here. This report further said that the large number of Afghan refugees settled in Karachi are indulging in smuggling of heroin

and "charas" and this trade has risen by 1,000 per cent in the last two years. A few days back, a refugee, who bought a posh bungalow in Gulshan-e-Iqbal, opened fire on a police party when it wanted to search his house on a tipoff that a large quantity of 'charas' had been dumped in his house. One policeman was injured. The refugee was released on bail at the police station. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 11 Mar 82 pp 15-16]

BUREAUCRATS CRITICIZED--The President of Faisalabad District Bar Association, Rana Muhammad Zafar, has appealed to the authorities to ensure that no "patriotic citizen" is victimised in the campaign against "anti-social" elements. He claimed that many innocent persons had been labelled as anti-social by the police. Mr. Zafar also demanded lifting of ban on political activities so that subversive and underground activities could be checked effectively. The President of the Bar Association alleged that some bureaucrats had been taking anti-people steps and were creating hatred against the Government. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Mar 82 p 16]

AHMAD FARAZ DISMISSED--Ahmad Faraz, the well-known Urdu poet, has been dismissed from his service as Director, Pakistan National Centre. Mr. Faraz was recently reinstated by the Government after a suspension of over two years. He was asked to join the National Centre in Turbat, a remote town in Baluchistan, which was a demotion as Faraz had been working as Director, Pakistan National Centre, when he was suspended in Dec. 1979. He had not joined the new office. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Mar 82 p 16]

COMMENTARY ON 'EMPTY' STATEMENTS--Like the weather in Islamabad--they say the winter is wagging its tail--the political scene in the country is variable. With every turn of the kaleidoscope you see a new pattern. Though political activity remains banned, politicians seem to have all the freedom to utter whatever they like. Is the new building of the House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC)--a huge tower, fast coming up--going to be the "Tower of Babble." All sound and fury, signifying nothing. Contradictory statements have been issued making banner headlines and then refuted. There has been talk of preparations for an election--Ghulam Dastgir says: possible, but next year--followed by "nothing doing." They speak of "positive results" and don't explain what would be considered "positive." The picture is all very confusing. Islamabad is not really the political capital. The political birds dart in and out of the "Child City" or just wallow in the political backwaters of the nearby old Pindi, meet Pressmen or political workers, issue a statement or two and leave behind a small controversy or mere void. [Text] [Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 25 Mar 82 p 15]

PORUGAL'S AMBASSADOR MEETS HAO--The outgoing ambassador of Portugal, Frederico Jose de Sampayo, called on the president in Rawalpindi this evening. They discussed matters of mutual interest. [BK081203 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Apr 82 BK]

DPRK VICE PREMIER STOPS OVER--Ho Tam, vice premier and foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, left for home this morning after an overnight stop in Karachi. He stopped in Karachi on his way home after attending the nonaligned foreign ministers' conference in Kuwait. [Text] [BK090956 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 9 Apr 82]

PROTECTED HAMLETS PLAN FAILS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by Manolo B. Jara]

[Text] MANILA: What turned out to be a disastrous experiment by the Americans in Vietnam was adopted by the military here with equally disastrous results in trouble-wracked Southern Philippines.

"Dismantle the hamlets", was the order of Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile after his attention was called by an independent human rights group. The group, organised by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), went on a fact finding tour of Davao del Norte in the south and confirmed human and civil rights violations with the establishment of the hamlets.

Compounding the problem was that the military never informed Mr. Enrile's office of their action. "I'm not aware of their existence," was the minister's blunt admission when he first learned of the case.

American military advisers encouraged the establishment of 'protected hamlets'. at the height of the Indochina conflict, Vietnamese families were forcibly uprooted from their homes and herded into hamlets to prevent them from giving aid and shelter to the Viet Cong.

The strategy, however, backfired and failed to stop the Viet Cong march to Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City).

Philippine military authorities in the south adopted the same approach initially in San Vicente town, Davao del Norte, about 600 miles south of Manila. Ostensibly, their reason was to protect the

estimated 32,000 villagers from being caught in the crossfire during military operations against the dissidents.

At the outset, military leaders claimed that the town residents voluntarily resettled themselves in the hamlets. They even cited a resolution approved by the town legislative council urging the residents to cooperate with the military and counter the harassment, intimidation and extortion activities of the Communist-led New People's Army.

And at no time were the villagers prevented from leaving the hamlets anytime they wanted to, according to the military.

It turned out, however, that the Davao military command instigated the approval of the resolution. With this finding, Minister Enrile immediately ordered authorities to dismantle the existing hamlets. He said: "In line with the policy of the (defence) ministry and the national Government on respect for human rights and due process, the military and the Integrated National Police shall see to it that no such hamlets are established or maintained."

In his sternly-worded order, Mr. Enrile reminded the military that the Government "has never authorised and will never countenance the forcible grouping of people in specified residential villages or centres . . . because 'these are violative of the constitutional rights of the people'".

Mr. Enrile's order thus gave substance to the findings of the

IBP human rights and due process commission regarding military abuses in the establishment of the hamlets. In its report, the commission enumerated some of the human rights violations, including:

• • • Ordering the town residents to transfer their homes to a "grouping" area under implied threats of being treated as an enemy. This, the commission said violates the people's constitutional rights to liberty of abode and travel.

• • • Requiring residents to construct the Philippine Constabulary (National Police) barracks and to contribute materials for it. This violates the constitutional right against involuntary servitude according to the IBP commission.

• • • Requiring residents to demolish and dismantle their homes which is a violation of the right not to be deprived of property without due process and without due compensation.

The commission emphasised that the military measures in San Vicente were not justified. Before and after the hamletting, it said, there were no encounters between the Constabulary and the dissidents "of such nature as to warrant wholesale evacuation of civilians from their farms".

Also from the practical point of view, the commission said, hamletting has alienated, instead of attracting, the residents to the government side.

Worse still, the IBP group discovered the reason behind the move which does not seem to speak well

of the military. The report said: It appears that the immediate reason for the hamletting was due to the boycott of the town residents of the Sept. 4, 1981 elections and the abush of a military jeep in which seven soldiers were killed.

"Neither of these incidents" the commission argued, "justified hamletting. Even if the nation were at war, no forced transfer of civilians is allowed under the laws of war and only temporary evacuations are permitted when military operations are going on or are about to begin."

All of these, a defence official observed, were reminiscent of the Americans' protected hamlet strategy which miserably failed to stop the Viet Cong advance in South Vietnam.

"Some people never learn", the official said. "In the battle to win the hearts and minds of the people, a purely military solution is never the answer to the problem." *Depthnews*

CSO: 4220/489

ANTI COMMUNIST DRIVE CAUSES TENSION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 26 Mar 82 p 5

[Text] BALANGA (Philippines): The rugged Bataan Peninsula west of Manila has become the focus of a national human rights campaign amid tensions aroused by a military crackdown on alleged communist guerrillas and sympathisers.

Local people have accused troops of sudden raids on homes, abuse of women, beatings and tortures, as well as extensive surveillance through the use of informers.

They told a fact-finding mission led by a Retired Supreme Court Judge that the military operation was principally aimed at protecting the economic interests of multi-national companies with factories in the area.

Justice JBJ Reyes later said in a report on his mission, that human rights were being violated in Bataan because of what he described as militarisation. But military officers have denied the charge.

Bataan, strategically positioned at the mouth of Manila Bay, is the site of the government's first export processing zone. There are more than 50 industrial units turning out a variety of goods, including shoes, radios, garments, watches and toys.

The towns of Bataan alongside Manila Bay and the South China Sea are deceptively tranquil. But this correspondent saw clear signs of fear among the population whenever troops were around.

People told Justice Reyes mission on the presence of reporters that Philippine marines conducting counter-insurgency operations in the area, barged into their homes at night, searched belongings and abused and arrested men at the slightest suspicion of being Communist sympathisers.

Manuel Miguel, a 45-year-old farmer, said he was hung up on a tree with a belt while his wife was manhandled by the Philippine marines on mere suspicion of giving aid to the Communist New People's Army (NPA).

Flor Diao, a 45-year-old housewife, said marines searched her house three times looking for her husband, who was suspected of being an NPA guerrilla.

Scores of people who attended a meeting of the mission in one village said all their able bodied men were asked to report to a military camp for questioning and required to sign applications for presidential amnesty as surrenderees.

The villagers also charged that they were not allowed to go to their farms without a pass from the military, on the ground that they could be mistaken for rebels without identity papers.

One farmer said the marines burned down his crop in a bid to flush out suspected guerrillas in thick grass near his farm.

In one town, people told the Reyes Mission that the town's Mayor initiated a meeting between local representatives and the army in an effort to clear misunderstanding about the anti-Communist operations.

But one military officer told the meeting that 80 per cent of the people in the town were listed as NPA members or supporters and had two weeks to surrender or the marines would hunt them down, the residents claimed.

"We never bother asking questions, because we are afraid", an elderly woman said.

Para-military Philippine constabulary records show that 11 people suspected of being NPA regulars were killed since December. Seven others were captured and 193 surrendered.

Bataan Provincial Commander Lt. Col. Benjamin Feliciano said the government had not lost a single soldier in clashes with the NPA.

He denied charges that his troops had maltreated residents and told reporters with the Reyes Mission: "I always tell my men to be public service oriented because the success of any counter-insurgency operation depends so much on the co-operation of civilians and so far, I think, we have been successful".

Col. Feliciano said since the time Jessie Rafael, the alleged head of an NPA Liquidation Squad and Chairman of the Communist Provincial Committee was killed last month, "the situation has normalised" in the province.

The Executive Officer of the Philippine Marine Battalion, Capta Benedicto Corona, also denied reports of human rights violation committed by his men, and asked the people to "file complaints directly to his office of any military abuses."

He, however, added: "In any operation there are always bad eggs, but we are assuring the people that their complaints will be attended to if they would only let us know."

He said NPA guerrillas wearing fatigue uniforms similar to those of the military could be behind the atrocities and house searches to discredit the military.

Answering questions, he said though the situation in Bataan had stabilised, the government had sent in an additional battalion of marines as "this is a High resource area because of the presence of big firms and multi-national companies".

Justice Reyes, however, said the situation had not at all stabilised because of the terror caused by what he called the unusually large military presence.

He said the Human Rights Commission of the integrated bar of the Philippines would set up an office in Bataan to receive complaints against the military.

"Human rights are being violated but the people are afraid to complain and we intend to do something about it", he added.

He said his group would also write to President Ferdinand Marcos informing him of the situation. - Reuter Feature

CSO: 4220/489

RICE PURCHASES FROM CHINA, PAKISTAN

Colombo SUN in English 22 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Minoli de Soysa]

[Text] This year's devastating drought has forced the Government to place immediate orders for the import of 200,000 tons of rice.

The Government is now making arrangements to purchase 120,000 tons from the People's Republic of China and 80,000 tons from Pakistan.

The Ministry of Trade and Shipping is re-opening negotiations for the purchase from China under the Sino-Lanka Trade Pact. The Minister, Lalith Athulathmudali will leave for Pakistan later this month to personally negotiate the purchase from that country. The latter transaction, it is pointed out, will also help to correct an imbalance in trade between Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

FAILURE

Although the Government decided not to make large rice purchases this year, the failure of the 1981/82 Maha crop has resulted in the necessity for imports.

The anticipated Maha crop was 83 million bushels, an increase of nine million over the previous year. However, due to

drought conditions, only 70 million bushels have been harvested.

To make the large purchase from China, Sri Lanka is taking advantage of a clause in the Sino-Lanka Trade Pact which makes the re-negotiation of rice purchases possible. When he signed the pact in Peking in November last year, Mr. Athulathmudali left the quantity of rice open until the Maha crop was harvested.

IMPOST

However, when he was in Peking, the Minister said that even if things went badly the most the country would need to import would be 30,000 tons of rice.

The 1982 agreement consists of 60 million dollars of purchases by both countries. Instead of rice, Sri Lanka agreed to buy some 15 million dollars worth of base oil from China. The increase in quantity of rice is expected to increase Sri Lanka's share of the pact by a considerable amount.

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

MAHA 60M BUSHELS CROP--The Agriculture Ministry yesterday claimed a 60-million bushel maha crop, up 2 million bushels from last maha, despite the debilitating drought which damaged 235,000 acres of paddy cultivation. Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne, Secretary to the Ministry of Agricultural Research and Development said this was a conservative estimate. An average yield of 60 bushels per acre had been obtained from the fields harvested. Explaining a government decision to import 200,000 tons of rice this year, he said this was to insure against a failure of the yala crop due to the effect of the drought and not to make good a maha failure. This will be a buffer stock. If we have a good yala we won't need the imported rice and can re-export it," he said. [Text] [Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 23 Mar 82 p 3]

TRADE BALANCE SURPLUS--Sri Lanka's balance of trade registered a surplus after a lapse of nearly five years, in November, 1981. The trade surplus last November, according to Central Bank sources, has been Rs. 151 million. The expenditure on imports during the month has been Rs. 2,125 million whereas the export earnings have amounted to Rs. 2,276 million. The surplus thus realised is in sharp contrast to the experience in November, 1980, when a deficit of Rs. 1,457 million was recorded. Despite this surplus in the trade balance for November 1981, the balance for the first eleven months taken together had indicated an overall deficit of Rs. 14,464 million. Even this figure is an improvement when compared with the deficit of Rs. 15,426 million recorded for the corresponding period in 1980. The indicated decline in the trade deficit in SDR terms is 18 per cent. The reduced trade deficit in 1981, which represents a significant change in the trade pattern that existed since the trade liberalisation in 1977, according to Central Bank sources, is the combined outcome of a rise in exports and a fall in imports. The total value of exports during this period increased by 10 per cent while that of imports declined by four per cent. [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 22 Mar 82 p 1]

OIL TANK FARM BIDS--The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation has invited offers from prospective foreign collaborators to run its oil storage tank firm in Trincomalee as an international oil storage complex. One of the conditions laid down by the corporation to prospective collaborators is that oil owned by any military establishment cannot be stored in the tank farm. [Excerpts] [BK091259 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 Apr 82]

THAILAND

RUMORS OF TRANSFERS BRING TALK OF COUPS

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 7 Mar 82 p 3

[**"MATICHON Essay" column: "Do Politics Still Belong Just to the Military?"**]

[Text] As April draws nearer, April being the month for the transfer of battalion commanders, rumors of a coup grow louder and louder, both in gossip and open talk. The voices speaking openly belong to at least two famous political forecasters. One is the astrologer Poramet Wacharapan, who is close to high-ranking military circles. The other forecaster is political analyst Dr. Somchai Rakwichit, who predicted that the government of Mr. Thanin Kraiwichian wouldn't last more than 1 year.

As soon as rumors of a coup become widely heard, high-level warlords feel that an important role for them is to come out and console the populace, saying nothing like that will happen, there is absolutely no need to worry. However, rumors of a coup continue to spread, and it is said that by September, 1982 Lt Gen Jan Linanon, a close companion of Gen Prem Tinsulanon since they were in the 2nd Army Region, and who is now commander of the 4th Army Region may be brought back to assume command of the 1st Army Region, both in order to prevent the expansion of power of certain officers and in order to insure the political power of General Prem.

Although a number of high-level officers may come out to console the populace by saying there certainly will not be a coup, it appears that few wholeheartedly believe it. One important factor is that most people feel that in countries like Thailand where political conditions are underdeveloped there is no guarantee that the military will not stage a coup and seize power once again. The coup has become a prime characteristic of Thai politics, and the military has a monopoly on coups.

Recent Thai political history has taught the people a lesson that they should remember: the military officers who like to say over and over that they won't stage a coup are often the ones who actually do. For example, Gen Sarit Thanarat, when he was army commander, gave word to Field Marshal P. Phibunsongkhram, the Prime Minister, that he surely wouldn't "follow in the footsteps" of Field Marshal P. However, in September, 1957, Gen Sarit Thanarat became the leader of the group who staged the next coup, and Field Marshal P. Phibunsongkhram hurriedly fled to the Cambodian border in his Thunderbird, just in time.

In the period when Gen Krit Siwara became Deputy Minister of Education in the government of the United Thai People's Party he said in an interview that anyone considering staging a coup would be really stupid. But when the incident of 14 October 1973 occurred, General Krit himself played an important role in pressing Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon, Field Marshal Praphat Charusathian, and Colonel Narong Kittikhachon to leave the country, which itself in fact was equivalent to a silent coup. And a recent example was Gen Prem Tinsulanon, army commander, who received support from the group of soldiers called the "Young Turks," allowing him to become prime minister in March, 1980. However, in April, 1981, the same "Young Turks" tried to stage a coup to overthrow the government of General Prem, but were unsuccessful.

As long as the coup d'etat is used as a method of solving political problems military officers in powerful positions will have a role in determining the political destiny of Thailand. Politics in the abstract sense in political science should belong to the people, but in nations which are politically underdeveloped like Thailand, politics more often are the property of the military warlords who have the guns and the power in their hands. Not only the people, a vague, broad notion, but even the members of the legislature who are held to be the fair representatives of the people according to the Constitution have almost no meaning at all. If the military stages coups and abolishes parliament and tears up the constitution, the awful truth of the matter is contemptible, but must be accepted with a bitter heart.

The people have very little meaning in terms of the political situation in Thailand, and counting the days on which there were successful coups to secure power in the past two decades, that they will is becoming more and more of a dream. Conditions of economic deterioration and political divisiveness and conflicts inside the armed forces, in another sense, are best remedied by democratic processes. Therefore, even if the military is to stage a coup, the direction taken by the coup should be not to seize absolute power in a dictatorship, but to bring greater democracy to the people. Military officers who move in the other direction will not have a bright political future and will in turn lose power to new military officers with greater political vision.

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CSO: 4207/72

THAILAND

MUSLIM LEADER HITS SOUTHERN OFFICIALS, SAYS EXILE WAS FORCED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 9 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Amin Tomina Reveals Reason for Exile From Thailand; Points to Southern Officials as Cause"]

[Text] Hajj Amin Tomina sent a letter to the Prime Minister and the Chairman of the Newspaper Association of Thailand asking for justice in the incident in which he was accused by officials of being a leader of the terrorist movement in the south, forcing him to have to leave the country, unwilling to return. He specified that he would be glad to return to help the country if official of the border area stopped from looking down on the people, holding TOKRU [Islamic leaders who have been to Mecca] in contempt, being insincere, and using any means to gain advantages.

Hajj Amin Tomina's letter was sent in Singapore to the Prime Minister and Mr Prachuap Thong-urai, with a copy to the commander of the 4th Army Region through Maj Gen Panya Singsakda, commander of CPM Unit 43 [Civil-Police-Military] of Yala province. He denied establishing the terrorist movement "Phatip," of which he does not even know the meaning, and said that that movement does not exist outside of the accusations themselves and the advantages they bring; it has nothing to do with liberation.

Hajj Amin Tomina said that he was accused when he left Thailand to attend the pilgrimage to Mecca. When he arrived in Singapore and heard the news, he didn't dare return to his home in Pattani until he made contact with and received protection from the military so he could return. But in Pattani there was a death squad waiting to harm him, so that he was unable to leave his home. Therefore he had to hurry and leave Thailand, intending to study in England, because if he stayed in Thailand he would have a nervous breakdown.

Hajj Amin charged that reports that he was in the resistance were false reports which news analysts accepted as true without investigation. This is the root of the problem. Some government units create issues for themselves to work on, hoping to use their budgets for personal gain.

Hajj Amin's letter specified that aside from leaving Thailand for relaxation and to study, and to get away from Thailand's rotting and deceitful society, he also couldn't bear to see Muslim leaders killed, which has become a regular and unending occurrence.

Hajj Amin charged that all governments have been insincere about solving problems. Officials in the border provinces of the south get positions by currying favor, through contacts or by buying positions; the good people have to leave before long. After he himself left he was contacted to return to Thailand because of fear of losing political gains and for psychological reasons. But he still sees no assurance that he can trust them, so he doesn't ask to return. Although his being out of Thailand opens him up to accusations, he must be willing to accept this.

The letter points out that problems must be solved at the core. But today officials are continuously creating problems. If the 4th Army Region really wants to solve problems, he himself would be glad to lend a hand. But he must have the assurance that there is sincerity--not only that a policy exists, but that it will be carried out--and political principles must be adhered to. Otherwise he will not return to Pattani, even though no one willingly abandons his place of birth, his wife and children, to endure hardship needlessly.

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CSO: 4207/72

MUSLIM RELIGIOUS LAW IN SOUTH DISCUSSED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Mar 82 p 12

[Article by Hat Yai]

[Text]

THE LONG-STANDING issue over the recognition of the Muslim law for the four southernmost provinces was up for debate for the first time between Muslim leaders and government officials. But all parties concerned apparently admitted that there was a long way to go before the problem could be basically solved.

Over 200 Muslim leaders seminar told *The Nation* that and local authorities met on the Muslim people in the last Saturday and Sunday in a seminar held here to solve the problem and its outcome could be at best described as a symbolic success.

"It's a good trend that all parties concerned agreed to talk things out for the first time since the imposition of the Muslim law about 36 years ago," a Muslim leader said after the two-day seminar.

But he admitted that most of the Muslim attendants were rather disappointed with the outcome of the seminar which was under mounting press from the Muslim people in the four provinces of Yala, Narathiwat, Pattani and Satun.

Pattani MP Den Tomena who was also present at the

which is rejected by local officials.

"The authorities refuse to recognize the marriage evidence which is in line with the Muslim principles thus making impossible for couples to enjoy tax reduction for married persons," he said.

The problem lies on the grounds that while the "religious courts" set up in accordance with the Muslim law recognized marriage in line with the religious principles, the local authorities consider it unacceptable simply because "it is outside the religious courts."

During the seminar, the Muslim leaders tried to win the recognition of the religious norms from officials, but their proposals met with strong opposition.

The officials who attended the seminar told *The Nation* that they could not recognize such practices which did not fulfil the requirements of general law imposed nationwide.

The Muslim leaders argued that if the government accepted the use of religious principles to solve legal conflicts among the Muslim people, the officials should also recognize the religious marriage documents.

But the authorities contended that Muslim people could register their marriage with them after they had been married under the religious principles.

Despite the inconclusive debate over the issue, the seminar reached consensus over measures to boost the qualifications of the religious judges, called "Dato Justices."

The participants agreed that the educational qualifications for religious judges should be elevated from the preliminary schooling to the secondary level.

They also agreed that a ruling of the religious judges should not be held final and the losers in the legal cases should be entitled to appeal the courts to revive their cases.

There are now eight religious judges in the four provinces, each of which comprises two judges who will hold their posts until their mandatory retirement age.

The Muslim leaders also proposed that the Muslim law should be imposed in all the 27 provinces where there are provincial Muslim committees, but officials brushed aside the proposal on the grounds that the Muslim people elsewhere could live peacefully under the normal laws.

Den said after the seminar that he was rather disappointed over the outcome and admitted the difficulties to "make the officials" understand the aspiration of the Muslim people.

"I first anticipated early solutions to the problem through the seminar. But now I realize that this is only an illusion," he said.

He added that he would try to have the Muslim law virtually recognized by local authorities through parliamentary process.

"Although, the process will take long time, this seems to be the only way out for the Muslim people," he added.

Deputy Undersecretary of State for Education Sophon Rattanakorn said that the Education Ministry which hosted the seminar would consider the proposals made in the caucus to improve the Muslim law.

"I could not promise anything, but at least this is the first time the conflicting parties tried to settle the problems through talks," he added.

CSO: 4220/485

AMIN SETS TERMS FOR RETURN FROM EXILE

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Mar 82 p 6

[Article by S. Kasitipradit]

[Text] PATTANI — Amin Tomina, a former chairman of the Central Islam Committee of Pattani Province, has fled the country for nearly a year now — for fear of his life.

There are no signs that he will return soon to his homeland. That's understandable — since the allegation that forced him to exile himself abroad was a serious one. Amin was accused of leading a new terrorist group in the Muslim-dominated southern part of Thailand.

The accusation has come from a mysterious circle but it was clearly aimed at Amin. According to the allegation, Amin might be related to a new secessionist group known as "Partip." Once Amin heard the speculations, he knew danger was approaching. He packed up and left in April, last year. Today, his condition for the return is clear: The government must offer him the guarantee against assassination attempt.

Mr Den Tomina, his younger brother and currently a Democrat MP from Pattani, told *The Nation* in an exclusive interview here earlier this week that it was all a very "funny situation."

"I had never heard about my brother being related to a Muslim secessionist group before. It could have been a dirty plot to destroy his reputation. There must be something behind the allegation," Den said.

He raised an interesting possibility. "While Amin was in Thailand, such accusations were never heard of. But once he went to Mecca for the Haj, there were whispers that he was holding secret meetings among Muslim secessionists. That was totally baseless," the Democrat MP said.

Amin recently wrote a personal letter to Fourth Army Commander Lt Gen Harn Leenanond to tell of his version of the story.

In the letter, Amin reported that he had gone to Mecca in October, 1980 after which he went to Malaysia where he arrived on Jan 2, 1981.

"While in Malaysia, I heard the accusations that I had gone to Mecca to hold clandestine meetings among secessionists. After I heard the reports, I didn't dare come back to Thailand," Amin said in the letter, adding ominously:

"If I returned to Pattani, I would certainly be assassinated. So, I decided not to. But with the help of Chula Rajmontri's Office which got in touch with the Supreme Command who assured me of my safety, I came back on Jan 17, 1981. I was received by officials from the Supreme Command to ensure my security," Amin said in his letter to Lt Gen Harn.

The event that developed later, however, proved Amin's worst suspicion. As his brother Den recalled: "After my elder brother arrived at Don Muang, he came back to Pattani, where members of an assassination squad were seen near the house all the time. This was the talk of the town. Most people here knew about it. We got confirmed reports that they were going to kill Amin."

Den said that he had been disappointed with the lack of responsiveness from senior government leaders on the matter.

"We sent a petition to the prime minister. But he didn't respond to it. When he received our second petition, the premier assigned an official to reply very tersely that the matter had nothing to do with the government. That was a very unsatisfactory reply," Den said, brewing with anger.

He said the prime minister might have read a biased report and failed to pay sufficient attention to the real problem.

Realizing that his life was at stake, Amin fled. He claimed to have developed jitters on the verge of a nervous breakdown because he was tailed most of the time.

"That's when he decided to flee to Singapore," Den reported. After his departure, the accusation was stepped up in severity.

"When I held talks with the local senior officials over this, they said they would assure Amin of security if he returns. But while these talks were being held (end of December, last year), a local Muslim leader in nearby Yala province was shot dead. Nobody was arrested. When the incident happened, Amin's plan to return here was automatically scrapped," MP Den said.

In his letter to the Fourth Army Commander, relayed through Maj Gen Panya Singsakda, Commander of the Civilian-Police-Military CPM-43, Amin categorically denied the existence of the alleged "Partip" Muslim secessionist movement.

"The officials who filed this report must have been my enemies. The intelligence reports obviously had not been properly checked and screened. I know who filed the false reports and I know that some government agencies like to distort their reports for their own personal benefits," Amin charged in his letter.

Amin also claimed in his letter that he had fled to Singapore because he couldn't tolerate the frequent killings of local Muslim leaders.

Den himself said that he had faith in the Fourth Army Commander. "The commander has personally

confirmed to me that secret assassinations have been stopped once and for all. But then, it could be the work of certain groups without the knowledge of the commander. The killing of the Muslim leader on Dec 23 in Yala, for example, was witnessed by some local villagers. But who would dare to come out to volunteer as witnesses?" Den said.

MP Den said while he deeply appreciated Lt Gen Harn's honesty and integrity, solving the South's problems is a formidable task.

"I know his hands are clean. But what if other officials wouldn't cooperate with him?" Den asked.

In the official files of the CPM-43, the name of "Partip" secessionist movement appears there, with Amin's name being mentioned as leader. But when questioned about the report, officials of the CPM-43 admitted that the report remained "unconfirmed."

Amin himself said in his letter to Lt Gen Harn that he would never return to Pattani if the government authorities could not offer him guarantee of safety.

"If you are ready to solve problems, I am ready to offer a helping hand. But there must be the basic mutual sincerity here. The solution can't just rely on the policy. The practical implementation is also an important part...."

CSO: 4220/485

COLUMNIST DISCUSSES PRASONG, FOREIGN MINISTRY DISPUTED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 11 Mar 82 p 4

[Article by Suthichai Yoon]

[Text]

I AM GLAD to report that our foreign policy has apparently "graduated" with flying colours — at least it has been lifted to the level of international standards previously enjoyed only by super-powers such as the United States. How? Well, if you have the Foreign Ministry and the National Security Council exchanging angry notes, you can be sure that Thailand's foreign policy isn't all that "backwards" after all.

My fellow columnist, Bangkokian, has been in the thick of the issue. So, I won't go into detail. But the incident does remind all of us once again that foreign policy has not in any way

been exposed wider to public debate. They are still sensitive up there at Saranrom Palace about comments and criticism — and when an unsigned commentary was enclosed in the ministry's envelope to all newspapers last week, the lid was blown off.

All these unnecessary grumblings have been a paradox in their own way. Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila himself hasn't made much of a noise over the remarks made by Secretary General of the National Security Council, Squadron Leader Prasong Soonsiri, who apparently was only making his recommendations on what the country's foreign policy should be.

It's all simply too funny to be true. Prasong used to work under Siddhi who personally made sure his No 2 man would be promoted to the top post at the NSC when he left to become foreign minister. Both of them were once known to be "hardliners" in their approach towards Vietnam and other communist states in the foreign policy lines.

Now, without attaching labels around anybody's neck, I am not too sure who is a "hardliner" and who isn't. Prasong's first statement which provoked some people at the Foreign Ministry was that Thailand should perhaps adopt a "hands-off" policy

of Kampuchea if our efforts had not produced the desirable results.

The following day, the ministry's information chief, Jetn Sucharitkul, told a weekly Press conference that the government's "official" lines on foreign policy could only come from three persons: the premier, the deputy premier and the foreign minister.

Later, somebody at the ministry sat down and wrote an unsigned article which was later in the week sent to all newspapers. The contents were obviously against Prasong's remarks. The Nation picked up the story and got caught in the middle, because both sides, instead of facing each other squarely, referred the incident to this newspaper.

Prasong insisted

on his rights to comment on foreign policy, arguing that any policy which affects national security falls under his jurisdiction. The ministry's Information Department denied the next day that it had anything to do with the unsigned letter — a statement which clearly was a sign of cowardice.

All this while, Foreign Minister Siddhi made no statement on the issue. When asked by reporters on Tuesday, Premier Prem Tinsulanonda would simply say that any statement not issued by himself or the foreign minister could not be interpreted as "official policy."

Now, Prasong himself had two days earlier delivered another speech in which he reiterated his rights of talking about foreign policy by stating that Thailand mustn't "change horses in midstream" on the Khmer question. The premier, in his bantering with reporters, said the

government had not changed its basic policy and that the tripartite Khmer meetings in Bangkok was only a "means towards an end — and not an end in itself..."

The question here is not whether Prasong or the Foreign Ministry is right. The poser is: Is foreign policy going to remain a sensitive subject only a selected few could discuss without risking being branded with suspicion? Siddhi and Prasong would have to work this problem out between themselves. But very often, the Press, trying to report the case objectively, has been trapped into the controversy simply because the two parties concerned just would not face the problem realistically.

The airing of differing views on a particular foreign policy topic is not, as some people at the ministry or Government House or even the NSC believe, an indication of a lack of unity within the country. In fact, if

the public gets down to discussing the issue more openly and enthusiastically, it could only be good for the nation's decision-making process.

Personality clashes might have been involved to a certain extent here — and that, again, is a typical Thai bureaucratic disease which continues to plague our nation.

One can't help laughing when it is recalled that not very long ago, it was alleged, rightly or wrongly, that the Foreign Ministry was the "progressive" agency while the NSC was the "hardline, rigid" prototype of military-dominated thinking.

Has the trend been reversed?

For fear of being accused of being unpatriotic, I don't dare laugh too loudly over this. But still, the parallel keeps surfacing in my mind throughout the week.

KAREN REBEL PRESENCE, ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORTED

Bangkok TH : NATION REVIEW in English 11 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by Pipat Lertkittisuk]

[Text]

MAE SOD, Tak - "Kaw Moo Rah" means "Our Land" in Karen. It's also the name of the so-called "101 Special Operation Base" of the Karen Liberation Army.

Kaw Moo Rah is located within Burmese territory, opposite Thailand's Baan Wangkaew here - only about 20 kms from the district seat. Across the Moei River is the Karen rebels' area. Outsiders are prohibited from taking pictures. The rebels are unusually strict on this particular ruling.

At the check-point the Karen rebels on duty would thoroughly search every passer-by.

Here, Saw Bu Yi, in charge of foreign visitors, would make sure that the cause of the movement's activity is well understood by everybody who steps foot here.

Kaw Moo Rah comprises about 300 houses. A dirt road runs around the village. Another straight road cuts through the circle. The population is overwhelmingly Karen, with some Indians and Thais as minority members.

At every vital points of the area, armed guards. They all look stern enough. But the villagers form a contrast picture. They look relaxed and, like most rural Thais, live a simple life. More than half of the Karen here are engaged in trading - and the "marketplace" here is a row of one-story shophouses which cut across as a straight line through the "circle of houses."

Most of the goods one finds here - including animals' horns, local herbs and consumer goods, are smuggled in from Mae Sod District. "Some of them are from Bangkok, particularly textile goods."

The mention of textile garments here could well be sensitive. In fact, unofficial statistics show that 40

per cent of Thailand's textile exports are sent through this area. The Karen collect more than 300 million baht a year in their "border taxes" levied on the textile trailers.

The taxation may be illegal. But in the terminology of the jungle law, smuggling knows no regulations nor boundary.

Kaw Moo Rah is a complete social structure in itself - complete with temples and a school which houses about 400 students.

The playful children are taught Karen, Burmese and English. The school was set up only two years ago and about 15 teachers have taken turns to tend to the classes. But they aren't there all the time.

The marketplace is located right at the intersection of the village near the Thai border. It's a busy spot where fresh vegetables, meat and all kinds of commodities are sold. And if one should find any difficulty in the currency exchange, there is also a place where Thai and Burmese currencies could be exchanged.

The black market flourishes - and everybody seems to agree that it's the only "free-market system" which must be carried on.

Discipline seems to be a way of life here, according to local villagers.

"There is a strong emphasis on morals. Narcotics are absolutely banned. Alcohol and prostitution are strictly prohibited. And the Karen here are proud that they could do it without serious violations. But then, if any Karen wants to indulge in such things, he could always cross over to Mae Sod which offers all sorts of things banned in the Karen village," said a veteran local observer.

The Karen rebels are under Gen Bo Mya who leads the Kaw Thoo Lei movement seeking autonomy from the Rangoon Government. The portrait of Saw Ba U Gyi, the legendary leader of the Burmese independence from Britain and Gen Bo Mya, could be seen throughout the village.

The movement's main income is derived from the border tax levied on all goods that are carried across the border. The Karen rebels have also created their own trading routes into India and Pakistan on the other side. The proceeds inevitably go to the acquisition of weapons, mostly the US-made M-16 rifles, to boost the movement's strength.

Political observers have noted that the Karen rebels form a buffer all the way from the Mae Hong Son to Ranong, particularly against the Burmese Communist Party which had been trying to extend its influence to Western Thailand. The Karen are staunchly anti-communist.

Saw Taw, secretary on foreign affairs of the Karen National Union (KNU), told *The Nation* that although his movement and the BCP

harboured the same objective of overthrowing the Rangoon government, "we would never cooperate with the communists because our ideologies are diametrically different."

"Most Karen rebels get no regular monthly salaries. But they are reasonably well taken care of in their welfare and other benefits," said a local knowledgeable source.

The source said that two major border points are used by the Karens in Tha Songyang and Mae Sod each. No customs or immigration officials are seen here.

A senior official attached to the Civilian-Police-Military 34 Task Force based in Amphoe Mae Sod admitted that Thai officials had treated the Karens reasonably leniently "because we don't want to obstruct the routes of the Burmese communists, especially their support for the Thai Communists in that region."

The official added: "Even though the influence of the CPT in the Tak area has gone down, the situation remains fluid and we can't lower our guard."

The Karens remain fiercely independent although they are compelled to rely heavily on Thailand for their economic survival.

"In the past, no other nation has given aid to our Karen Liberation Army. And even if assistance should be offered in the future, we would not agree to any strings that may be attached," said a senior Karen leader.

He added that although the government-to-government relations between the Bangkok and Rangoon administrations had been visibly improving recently, "I don't think it would affect our movement — since we don't use the Thai soil for our activity in the first place..."

The Karens appear serious in building up their military strength. To reach that goal, economic strength must first be created. And the monopoly of textile trade by a Bangkok-based textile company, known as Siam Friendship, had of-

fered some substantial financial rewards for the Karen movement on a regular basis.

A bank manager in Mae Sod estimated that 40 percent of the garments produced in Thailand are sold through the Thai-Burmese border. The monopoly of a Bangkok-based textile firm recently erupted into an open feud, which ended only after the intervention by Tak Governor Charoensuk Silapan who held negotiations with Gen Bo Mya.

The governor told *The Nation*: "The Karen leaders promised to have the problems resolved." The outcome of the talks ended in the closure of border points for all textile goods as of Jan 25.

That decision plunged the whole of Mae Sod into financial chaos. "Half of the money just disappeared and textile goods from Bangkok were being held up," said a local businessman.

A senior local district official here said that after the textile monopoly came into force in November, last year, the rate of unemployment here soared immediately, sending up crime rate. But at the same time, the cartel raised the Karens' revenue by at least 60 million baht a month.

But the pressure was building up to a dangerous point. Negotiations were finally held again between representatives of textile merchants in Mae Sod with Karen leaders at the Kaw Moo Rah headquarters.

The Karens refused to budge. Instead of offering a compromise, they insisted on the monopoly for the Bangkok-based textile firm and jacking up all border tax from five to seven per cent, prompting the local merchants to complain to the Thai officials at the CPM-34 and the governor.

The Thai merchants suggested a drastic counter-measure: If the state of textile monopoly could not be overcome, the Thai authorities should put the lid on all goods crossing the border to the Karens.

The issue was not as simplistic as it might sound. Informed sources said that the governor had to consult Supreme Commander Gen Saibud Kerdphol in his capacity as chairman of the Thai-Burmese Border Committee.

"This is a delicate subject. It's beyond my authority to produce a solution," the Tak governor confessed. The solution would have to

take into account the sensitivities of the issue.

The issue was finally resolved, if temporarily, after the Karens agreed to allow all textile goods through. But the undercurrents remain tense.

As one informed source summed it up: "This problem isn't going to disappear just like that. Money, and lots of it, is involved in the deal..."

GEN SAIYUT DISCUSSES BORDER, INTERNAL SECURITY

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Mar 82 p 19

[Text]

Theh: What's the situation like on the border with the Indochina states of Laos and Kampuchea?

Saiyud: Vietnam is apparently trying to set up a Federation of Indochina. It has used troops in Laos and is using force in Kampuchea. Whether it can make the proposed federation in reality is another matter. The conflict in Kampuchea is causing problems along our border with incursions and shellings into our territory taking place.

At first, Vietnam suspected us of harbouring among the refugees resistance groups, but I expect better understanding in this respect. We are not allowing the Khmer Rouge or any other groups to use Thai soil. When either Vietnamese or Khmer Rouge soldiers cross the border, we push them back. We are not allowing even refugees to enter.

The feared use by the Vietnamese of such a suspicion to move into Thailand, in my opinion, cannot happen. There is no political excuse for this.

Harass

Another reason is that, despite continuing Soviet aid, the Vietnamese force is weakening because of the protracted warfare. Although they are using more heavy equipment including tanks, artillery and aircraft, I don't think they can wipe out the Khmer Rouge. The Khmer Rouge casualties are not much because they are fighting guerrilla-style.

They are harassing the rear of Vietnam's conventional forces, disrupting surface communications and carrying out other actions to blunt the dry-season offensive until the rainy season. Then they will go all-out to recapture any points they may have lost. The military situation will go on like this.

Those who suffer the most are the people living in the areas where the fighting takes place. The Vietnamese will continue to be blamed.

Thailand should not be affected too much. ASEAN should pursue the course it has taken and efforts should be made to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolution. Singapore, then Thailand, then China has each tried its utmost. Now it is up to others to exert efforts as well. It could be Malaysia.

Theh: There's no way in which Vietnam would invade Thailand, is there?

Saiyud: There's no reason. Whenever in their offensive against the Khmer Rouge they cross the border we have shown that we fight back. Vietnam will gain nothing by increasing the problems for itself. By coming into Thailand the Vietnamese will not be improving the chances of their offensive succeeding at all. There is no justification.

The scenario that some persons have drawn about the refugee camps being used for rest and recreation and source of supplies

of manpower and materials to the guerrillas in the forested hills is untrue. United Nations officials are watching over these camps.

If there is a Vietnamese invasion, there is sure to be reaction from our ASEAN allies, the United States with commitments to us, China and other countries. It will only make matters worse for Vietnam.

Theh: How prepared are our forces for an incursion if it should ever take place?

Saiyud: We have to show that we are capable of defending our border. We have drawn up contingency plans and worked out deployment of our forces to meet an incursion at any part of the border. We carried out practices earlier this month. I found the morale of our men to be high. They have been supplied with more and better weapons.

Theh: Are our weapons up to theirs?

Saiyud: Though we have a smaller quantity, yes. Our tanks and other armaments are equal, if not better. On the flat tank terrain in the area we can give a very good account of ourselves. Besides, we have already installed the "Red Eye" defence system.

Theh: What do we do when they fire their artillery into our villages?

Saiyud: We always respond and we know our targets. And then they stop. I think the shooting into our side of the border was more accidental than intentional.

Theh: Are our forces ready for the use of gas by the other side?

Saiyud: We have distributed gas masks to our troops along the border. However, at this time while the whole world is watching the Vietnamese may not use gas. I believe they have used gas in the past, when we were not watching. Now, because a row has erupted,

the Vietnamese probably would not like to provide us with positive evidence. Everyone will oppose the use of gas, and it will be unwise if the Vietnamese use gas at present.

Theh: How do you think is the morale of the Vietnamese soldiers standing up?

Saiyud: From our interrogation of deserters, we believe that morale is low. But we cannot use this measurement with the Communists. The communist soldiers obey orders without question. They have to fight even when they are hungry, they have no choice. There is no political opposition. We should be careful not to judge them by our own standards because then we could make the mistake of underestimating them.

Theh: What do you think of efforts to bring about a coalition government of Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front, Prince Norodom Sihanouk's Moulnakas and the Khmer Rouge?

Saiyud: Politically, if successful, it would improve the image of Democratic Kampuchea which is now run by the Khmer Rouge. It would make the Kampuchean government more acceptable to the United States and other countries. We have done our best, the efforts should be carried on by others.

Theh: What about the refugee situation?

Saiyud: Refugees come only when there is fighting and when they are starving. We accept them for humanitarian reasons only.

Theh: What about the border with Laos?

Saiyud: I think the situation there has improved. The deep channel (on the Mekong) is still a problem because of islands and sandbanks claimed by Laos but

which are on the Thai side of the channel. It's impractical to stick to the letter of any agreement in this respect.

It depends on the Laotians. If they want to, they can create trouble at any time. Traders go about their normal business. To cause tension on the border, all the Laotians have to do is to shoot at our fishermen carrying out their legitimate occupation.

We are certain that the Laotian people don't want problems with the Thai people. They want to buy our things, and they desire to be friendly. We on our side want to be friends with them.

Then who wishes to cause trouble with us? It is those who want to set up the three Indochina states into a single entity. Their battlefield is Laos as well as Kampuchea. Whenever they want to distract us from the Kampuchean border, or to raise tensions for their own purposes, they create incidents.

Discuss

Kampuchea is the main battle front. Laos is secondary.

Whenever I held discussions with Laotian officials after an incident, I felt that though they spoke with one voice they were not speaking from the heart. I believed they had received orders on what to say.

Theh: To the north, in Burma, the Burmese Communist Party is spreading its influence down from the Chinese border southwards toward the Thai border. How do you feel about the situation there?

Saiyud: I wish to let the people be aware of something. It used to be said that with the Communists coming to our border with Laos and Kampuchea we would be in a bad state. In Sayaboury, Champasak and other places the Communists are already right up against our border. Nothing serious has happened.

We cannot do anything about the Communists in Burma. It's Burma's affair. We can only cooperate with Burma in combatting Communism. We have our

own communist insurgents. We don't intend to let the Burmese Communists link up with our own Communists.

As for the minorities, they have to depend on us already. There is no reason whatsoever for them to join forces with the BCP unless conditions develop to force them. Therefore, we have to be cautious about our policy.

It will be useful to set up a joint border defence operation centre.

Theh: What about the ex-KMTs or Chinese irregulars along the border?

Saiyud: It is improper to use them to defend our border. We should establish our own system based on two principles. First, the primary responsibility for the defence of our country is our own, we cannot depend on others, we cannot employ others to do our job for us.

Second, we must not allow foreign forces to be stationed in our country. If foreign forces which are an enemy of a neighbouring country are permitted here, it would be like inviting warfare into our house.

It's the same with the Khmer Rouge. We cannot let them set themselves up on our territory.

We must stand firm on these two principles.

Theh: Action has been taken against Khun Sa (alias Chung Si Fu, alleged drug kingpin of the "Golden Triangle"). What are we going to do next?

Saiyud: We have to make sure he does not come back into Thailand.

Theh: What about our western border with Burma?

Saiyud: There's a lot of smuggling. And we have to prevent our Communists crossing the border to use Burmese territory.

The area is remote from Rangoon. The Karen problem is an internal problem of Burma's. We stick to our rule that no one could use Thai soil to carry out hostile acts against another country.

Theh: How are our relations with Burma?

Saiyud: Good. As long as Burma combats Communism, there's no problem. As a Buddhist country, it

will continue to fight the Communists. There is no question about our friendly cooperation with Burma.

Theh: What about our cooperation with Malaysia along the southern border?

Saiyud: There are no problems as long as we carry out our agreement on cooperation. However, there are some obstacles, mainly mutual suspicion or distrust which we must eliminate. This does not exist at the top levels, usually at the local, provincial and district levels.

Many things could arise to cause suspicion. To reduce or get rid of such suspicions, we have arranged for more face-to-face frank discussions on sensitive issues.

The Malaysians suspect Thais of not being engaged in a real campaign of suppression against the Communists along the common border. We Thais suspect the Malaysians of supporting the separatists so that they could help in combatting the communist terrorists. Such suspicions could only be useful to the common enemy.

Joint exercises have brought about better understanding. We used to have these exercises on the Thai side of the border, causing Thai complaints. So exercises are also held on the Malaysian side. We have our officials on the Malaysian side now. It is not just the Malaysians who have officials on our side.

In fighting the Communists, it is not just sending soldiers to kill them. The objective is to provide security to an area and safety for the people in that area. When they are safe and secure, the people will cooperate with us.

Any operation which puts the people in a worse situation is a failure.

Theh: What about the separatist movement?

Saiyud: Only a few politicians. The people don't want to be involved. From my talks with Muslims, they know we are sincere in trying to help them.

The four southernmost provinces are distant from Bangkok and close to another country. There are racial, religious and cultural differences, we have to admit. And there were times in the past when suppression was regarded as more important than assimilation. We have to wipe out such a history.

It is important to have officials in the South who understand the people there. We should encourage contacts between southern Muslim leaders and our leaders in Bangkok. The southern Muslims should have opportunity to converse with people from our regions of our country. We must emphasise promotion of mutual understanding.

During the past 20 years we have developed the southern provinces economically and today we have better roads, dams and other infrastructures than other countries in the region. These are all beneficial to the inhabitants there.

THAILAND

NATURAL GAS SHORTFALL TO LAST UNTIL NEXT YEAR

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Mar 82 pp 25, 27

[Article by Boonsong Kositchotethana]

[Text] The present shortfall in natural gas supply from Union Oil Thailand's Erawan gas field to the Petroleum Authority of Thailand will continue until early next year, BUSINESS POST learnt yesterday.

This is mainly because of spiralling technical problems with the American concessionaire's offshore gas production facilities, Thailand's first, which have already cost the firm millions of dollars in repair.

Reliable sources said Union has been forced to postpone the earlier planned date to restore the gas flow to the contractual rate of 200 million cubic feet per day (MMscfd) to PTT from May to October.

This will make it exactly one year since the gas supply contract took effect last October, though the full supply rate has never been met.

Between October 1981 and January this year, the gas flow was around 100 MMscfd, but Union raised this to an average of 125 MMscfd. The gas is being supplied to PTT via the 425-km submarine pipeline built by PTT northward from the Erawan field to the Rayong coast.

Union hopes to raise the gas flow to 200 MMscfd this October. Officials said "desperate efforts" were being made to repair the damaged offshore gas wells caused by overestimated heat which has affected the flow.

Moreover, Union is not likely to fulfil its second year agreement, which starts in October, to supply PTT with 250 MMscfd of gas until early next year. Preliminary indications from Union are that a flow rate of between 225 and 230 MMscfd of gas can be reached by this December and early next year.

Union plans to install one pair of platforms--a well platform (drilling) and a production platform (remote processing)--on the west side of its "A" complex. These two platforms, in addition to the existing 11 drilling, processing, production and quarters platforms, will help boost the gas supply.

Union is expected to start installing these two platforms in mid-1982 and get them working by the year-end.

This plan also stems from the fact that the flow rate from a group of wells which are accommodated by platforms "A" and "B" is lower than Union's estimate. The installation cost of the new platforms is believed to be millions of dollars.

Each of the present five drilling platforms is designed to accommodate up to 12 wells. However, an average of eight to nine wells per platform or about 42 wells will be needed to obtain the contracted flow of 250 MMscfd, Union's calculations show.

The average depth of these wells is 12,000 feet, though the rigs are capable of being drilled to 15,000 feet.

Wells are drilled out at an angle from the centre of the platform to cover a large, roughly circular area. This is called "directional drilling" and permits access to a much higher percentage of the reservoir area from a single platform than would be possible by simple vertical drilling.

At the same time, Union is replacing the damaged packers placed between rock layers at the bottom of the offshore gas wells which had melted under the high heat. The leakage raised the moisture content of the gas to excessively high levels and made the packers unremovable by existing equipment.

According to the established penalty agreed between Union and PTT, the American oil firm is bound to supply the cutback volume to PTT once normal production is resumed, at 80% of the normal well-head price.

PTT resells all the natural gas bought from Union to the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand for power generation. The two power plants consuming Gulf gas are the Bank Paking power plant in Chachoengsao and the South Bangkok power plant in Samut Prakan. They are connected by a 170-km onshore pipeline with offshore pipeline in Rayong.

Cutback

The cutback of natural gas from Union has forced the country's two major power houses to substitute for the gas shortfall with high-priced imported fuel oil.

An average of 17,000 barrels per day of fuel oil has been needed since last October to replenish about 100 MMscfd of gas and get the comparative heating value. This has created an outcry from officials concerned.

Union had sent a "technical team" from its parent company in the US, Union Oil Co of California, to explain the gas shortfall to ranking PTT officials. This is interpreted as a measure to prevent PTT from claiming extra compensation from Union.

The Erawan gas field (block 12), Thailand's first gas-producing field, is developed jointly by Union and its Japanese partner, South East Asia Petroleum Exploration Co.

According to the Mineral Resources Department, from August 15, 1981, to February 29 this year Union has pumped out 17,138 million cubic feet of gas, valued at about 1,006 million baht. In addition, 408,483 barrels of condensate, worth 311 million baht, have also been recovered.

THAILAND

BRIEFS

PREM CANDIDACY--"He hasn't considered running for parliament," Lt Gen Chankhup Sirisut, secretary to the prime minister, told MATICHON on 28 March. "The newspapers have been reporting that he will enter a race in Korat," repeated the newsmen. "That could be. The prime minister could run anywhere, not just in Korat. I say he could run anywhere in the Northeast or in the south, his home. Wherever he runs, he will get 100 percent because people like him. He has done a wonderful job. I'm talking only about the prime minister himself; I'm not going to run. I guarantee that there is no one to compete with him. I guarantee that when the candidates know he is running, they will just quit cold," said the secretary. "Would he win if he ran in Bangkok?" asked MATICHON. "I don't know about that...I don't know what political party he will campaign from. Right now, he doesn't have a party. Many parties would like to have him. If they get him, I guarantee that things will really be jumping. There are lots of people who like him and you don't have to talk about the army alone." The newsmen said that there were reports that the military was getting tired of the prime minister. Lt Gen Chankhup said, "That's not true. There are only the hangers-on [luuk nun]. The military is not tired of him. Those who are are those who are no longer in the military." [Text] [Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 29 Mar 82 pp 1, 12]

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